

A GENUINE  
HISTORY  
OF  
NADIR-CHA,  
Present SHAH or EMPEROR of *Perſia*,  
FORMERLY CALL'D  
*THAMAS KOULI-KAN.*

With a Particular Account of His  
Conquest of the MOGUL's Country.

Together with several  
Letters between Nadir-Cha and the *Great Mogul*,  
and from Nadir-Cha to his Son.

Translated from the Original *Persian Manuscript*  
into *Dutch*, by Order of the Honourable

JOHN ALBERT SECHTERMAN,  
President of the *Dutch Factory at Bengal*,  
and now done into *English*.

With an INTRODUCTION by the EDITOR,  
containing a Description and compendious  
History of *Perſia* and *India*.

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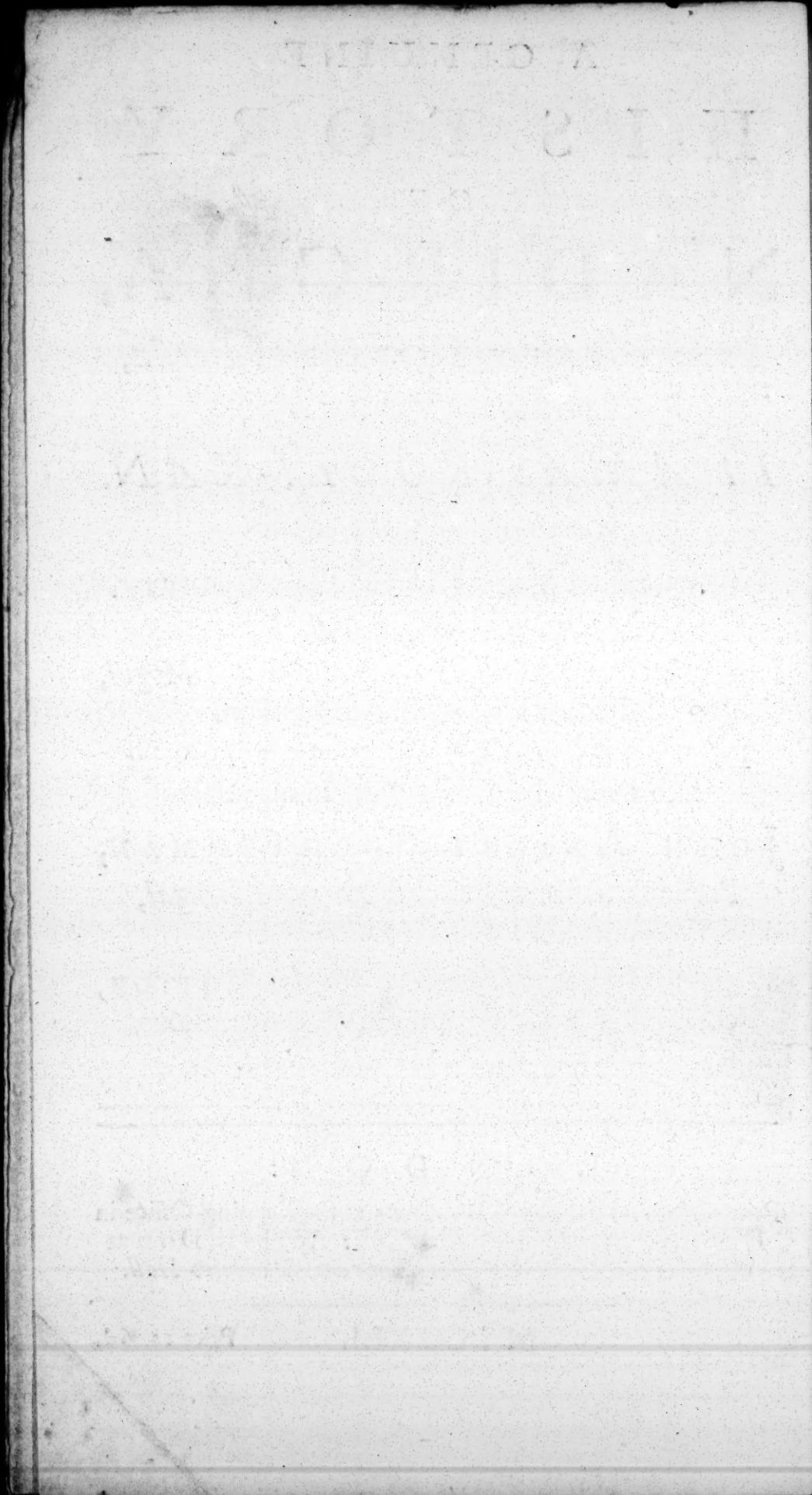
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T O

Sir MATTHEW DECKER,  
BARONET.

SIR,

A S the Publication of the following curious Piece of History was entrusted to my Care through Your Recommendation, I humbly beg leave to present it to You in the Dress wherein it now makes its Appearance, and I flatter my self with the Hopes, Sir, that You won't think

## D E D I C A T I O N.

it has suffered by passing through my Hands. I have endeavoured not only to preserve the Sense of the Original entire throughout, but likewise to keep as close to the very Expression as the Idiom of our Language would admit of, more particularly in the several genuine Letters inserted in it between the great Personages, who are the Subject of the History: These, indeed, are rendered almost Word for Word, which the judicious Reader, who never perused the original Manuscript, will in some Measure be convinced of by the Peculiarity of the Stile.

The Introduction, Sir, is compiled from the latest and most Authentic Accounts of *Perſia* and *India* that are extant, which, though of no Use to You, Sir, who are so well skilled in the History and State of those

## DEDICATION.

those distant Countries, yet may be of some Service as well as Entertainment to such Readers as have had no previous Acquaintance with those Particulars ; and as to the few Explanatory Notes which I have presumed here and there to cast at the Foot of the Pages, I hope you will not look on them as impertinent.

What I am afraid You will disapprove of, Sir, as the greatest Presumption I have been guilty of, is this Epistle ; but, in order to Your being so the less, I shall not give it the Turn which is usual to Addresses of this Nature, and which would be as unnecessary with regard to the Publick as it would be unacceptable to Yourself, but only offer it by way of Petition, to solicit Your Patronage as a Sanction to this Performance, not only because some favourite Name

is

## DEDICATION.

is requisite to recommend any thing new to the Publick, but as it will be likewise satisfied, by that means, that the following Piece is as genuine as it is curious. I am,

*SIR,*

*Your most obliged and*

*most humble Servant,*

J. M.



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## E R R A T U M.

Page 13, Line 26, instead of *Nassur-Ulla-Mirza*, read *Rhesa-  
Kuli-Mirza*.



# INTRODUCTION.

## *A Description of the Empire of Persia.*

**T**HE Empire of *Persia* is situated between 25 and 45 Degrees of North Latitude, and between 45 and 67 Degrees East Longitude; the Extent therefore of this vast Country is about one thousand two hundred Miles in length from North to South, and pretty nigh the same in breadth, so that were it not for the *Caspian Sea*, which divides the North-East from the North-West Parts of *Persia*, the Form of the Country would be almost square.

Several Nations have formerly reigned in *Persia*, and extended their Dominions into all the three Parts of the World then known, but at present it is bounded on the North by *Circassia*, the *Caspian Sea*, and the River *Oxus* or *Gibon*, which River divides it from *Usbek-Tartary*; on the South by the Eastern Ocean and Gulph of *Persia*; on the East by *India* or the *Mogul's Country*; and on the West by the *Turkish Empire*.

This Country is thought to have taken its Name from the Province of *Persis*, now call'd *Fars*; or from *Persopolis*, which was the capital City of that Province, and Seat of the Empire when *Alexander* conquered it.

The several Geographers, who have given us Descriptions of this Country, disagree in their Account of the Number, Names and Situation of its Provinces. It may most properly at present be divided into seventeen Provinces, which I shall describe in order as they lie

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from *India* towards *Turkey* by the Names now given them; and at the same time take notice of the Names they formerly went by.

The present Names of these Provinces are, 1. *Candahar*, 2. *Chorassan*, 3. *Sablustan*, 4. *Sigistan*, 5. *Makeran*, 6. *Kerman*, 7. *Fars*, 8. *Chusistan*, 9. *Curdestan*, 10. *Erak-Agemi*, 11. *Mazanderan*, 12. *Gylan*, 13. *Adir-beitzan*, 14. *Schirwan*, 15. *Dagestan*, 16. *Georgia*, 17. *Armenia*.

1. **CANDAHAR** borders upon *India-Proper*, or the *Mogul's Dominions*, and is principally inhabited by a People called *Agwans*; the Capital of this Province bears the same Name of *Candahar*: As this Town is almost the only Passage to go from *Persia* to *Indostan*, it has been the eternal Dispute between the *Great Mogul* and the Crown of *Persia*, however the latter has had the Possession of it for near a Century past, and upon the late Conquest of the Empire of *Mogul* by *Kouli Kan* it was ratified to them, together with all the other Provinces and Towns of *India*, which lie to the Westward of the River *Indus*, as will appear from the following History.

2. **CHORASSAN**, in which I include *Esterabad* or *Khemus*, contains part of the ancient *Bactria*, the chief Towns thereof are *Herat*, *Mesched* or *Thus*, *Nixabour*, *Esterabad*, *Aria*, *Marne*, *Indion* and *Zarchas*. This Province is without Dispute the most beautiful, rich and fertile of all *Persia*, and stretches no less than a hundred *German Leagues* in Length as well as Breadth.

As the Climate of this Country is the most temperate of all *Persia*, nothing can equal the Fertility of its Soil; they have all kind of excellent Fruits, Cattle, Corn, Wine and Silk in abundance; neither are there wanting Mines of Gold and Silver, nor even precious Stones, so that it may very safely be said that the Province of *Chorassan* abounds with every thing that can make a Country rich and agreeable.

Its Capital, *Herat*, is very populous and rich, and the most beautiful Town in the whole Province, since the *Usbek Tartars* have lately ruin'd the Town of *Mesched*, which had before been the Capital. The finest Carpets and Brocades that are made in *Persia* come from thence, and it has the Advantage of being the Staple of almost all the Commerce between *Persia* and the *Indies*,

as

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as it lies in the Road between *Ispahan* and *Candahar*.

3. **SABLUSTAN**, lying South of *Chorassan* and North of *Sigistan*, has for its chief Towns *Boft*, which is its Capital, being one of the greatest Thorough-fares by Land between *Perſia* and the *Mogul's Country*, and consequently a Place of considerable Trade, *Beeksabath* and *Gazna*, besides a very strong Fort.

4. **SIGISTAN**, said to be the ancient *Dragiana*, is situated to the Southward of *Sablustan*; its chief Towns are *Sigistan*, *Kobin*, and *Mastich*.

5. **MAKERAN**, supposed to be the ancient *Gedrosia*, lies Southward of *Sigistan*, and has three principal Towns, *Maberan*, *Pastir*, and *Gest*.

6. **KIRMAN**, anciently *Carmania*, is one of the largest Provinces of the Kingdom of *Perſia*, situated to the Westward of *Makeran*. Its principal Towns are *Kerman*, *Darabegerd*, *Chabis*, *Salem*, *Tubaran* and *Jasques*. The Northern Part of this Province is very mountainous, but the Vallies which are found there in several Parts are extremely fertile, and covered with all sorts of Fruits and Flowers. It is particularly remarkable for the finest Wool in *Perſia*, which is taken off the Sheep after a very peculiar manner; for as soon as they begin eating the new Grass in the Spring, the Fleece may be pulled away with the Hand without any Difficulty, so that they remain quite naked till the new Fleece comes on again. There are in this Province many of the People called *Gaurs*, who are sprung from the ancient Inhabitants of *Perſia*, and still preserve the Worship of Fire.

7. **FARS**, the ancient *Perſis*, containing the Districts of *Lar* and *Ormus*, lies Westward of *Kerman*, having the Gulph of *Perſia* to the South, and the Province of *Eruk-Agemi* to the North; its Capital is *Shiraz*.

This Town lies about two hundred Miles to the Southward of *Ispahan* in 29 Deg. 50 m. North Latitude. It is generally reckoned the second City of the Empire, is seated in a pleasant fertile Valley of about twenty Miles in length, having the River *Bendamir* running through it, and as it is a Place of considerable Commerce, there are a great many magnificent Bazars or Markets in it, which are all covered for the Preservation of the Merchandise, each Species of which having its particular Bazar to it self. The Wine of *Shiraz* is

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known all over the East, and indeed it is the best that *Asia* produces, whilst the most curious Glasses out of which to drink it are made there likewise, from a hard white Stone resembling Marble.

Here is a large College in this City, the most famous in *Perſia*, for studying the liberal Arts and Sciences.

About ten Leagues to the North-East of this City, are to be found the nobleſt Ruins of an ancient Palace or Temple now extant in the World, and far ſuperior to any thing amongſt either the *Roman* or *Egyptian* Antiquities. It is generally ſuppoſed to have been the Palace of *Darius*, who was conquered by *Alexander*.

This vast Fabrick is ſituated at the foot of a high Mountain which over-looks a ſpacious Plain where *Perſopolis* once ſtood, the nobleſt and wealthieſt City in the whole World, and which with this Palace was burnt to the Ground by *Alexander* at the Persuasion of his Harlot *Lais*. The Front of this Palace ſtood towards the West, and was about five hundred Paces in Length, the whole taking up threescore Acres of Ground. As there are many Accounts of this wonderful Piece of Antiquity, I refer the Reader to them, especially to those of *Olearius* and *Tavernier*, which are the moſt exact.

The next principal Town in this Province is *Gombron*, three hundred Miles from *Shiraz*, ſituated on the narroweſt Part of the *Persian* Gulph, wherein there are ſeveral Houses belonging to the *Engliſh* and *Dutch East India* Companies: Its other chief Towns are *Lar* and *Ormus*, which ſtands on a ſmall Island in the Gulph of *Perſia* over-againſt *Gombron*, as likewiſe *Bander-Cong* which also ſtands in the Gulph of *Perſia*, about thirty Miles West of *Gombron*.

8. **C H U S I S T A N**, the ancient *Susiana*, is ſituated to the West of *Fars*, the chief Towns of which are *Sufte*, *Elmais*, and *Banderie*. The Town of *Sufte* is ſaid to be the famous *Shushan*, where *Ahasuerus* made that magnificent Festival upon taking *Esther* to his Bed.

9. **C U R D I S T A N**, anciently *Aſſyria*, the Western Part of which belongs to *Turkey*, lies to the North of *Chufitan*, the principal Towns whereof are *Arnova* and *Courmebud*.

10. **E R A K - A G E M I**, ſo call'd, to diſtinguiſh it from the *Arabian Erak*, is the ancient *Parthia*, lying Well

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of *Curdistan*. This Province is reckoned the Principal in the Empire, being of a great Extent, and lying almost in the Center of the *Persian* Dominions. Its chief Towns are *Ispahan*, the Metropolis of the Kingdom, of which I shall give a particular Description hereafter, *Caswin*, where the ancient *Arsatia* stood, *Sava*, *Com*, *Casham*, *Terd*, and *Stamadan*, which is one of the principal Cities of *Persia*, being the Door by which every thing that goes from *Bagdat* to *Ispahan* must enter that Kingdom.

11. MAZANDERAN, in which is included *Tabrīstan*, is situated North of *Erak-Agemi*, its principal Towns are *Mazanderan*, *Tabrīstan*, and *Asterabad*, which last, situated upon a Gulph of the *Caspian Sea*, is deemed one of the finest in *Persia*, being large, well built, healthy and populous; there are several fine Manufactures in this Town, particularly a sort of Camlets much esteemed in *Persia*.

12. GYLAN, or *Kylan*, lies to the North-West of *Mazanderan*, and to the South-West of the *Caspian Sea*. This Province is precisely the *Hyrcania* of the Ancients, as 'tis easy to perceive by the Description which *Quintus Curtius* has given us of it. Nothing can be more beautiful than the Situation of this Province, for on the one Side it has the Sea-coast, along which it extends in the form of a Semicircle; and on the other Side it is encompassed with high Mountains, which so effectually separate it from the rest of *Persia* that there is no entering it on the Land side, but by certain very narrow Passages, which are at this Day call'd by the *Persians*, *Pyla* or Gates.

Those Mountains have this remarkable in them, that they are the most frightful Precipices imaginable on the Side towards *Persia*, but on the Side towards *Gylan* appear the most charming in the World, covered over with Citron, Olive, Orange, Fig, Cypress, and a thousand other kinds of Fruit-trees. These Mountains abound with all kinds of Deer, nor are they without Wolves, Leopards, and Tygers, which last especially are so numerous they bring them by great Numbers to the Towns for sale, the *Persians* having the Secret to tame them in such a manner as to use them in Hunting, as we do Dogs; and when they are trained they sit

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quietly behind Horsemen, 'till it's time to send them after the Game.

The Country of *Gylan* is in it self very beautiful and level, and is cut by several fine Rivers, which falling from the Mountains discharge themselves into the *Caspian Sea*: It produces such abundance of Wine, O Silk, Tobacco, Rice, and all Sorts of the most exquisite Fruits, that it furnishes great part of *Perisia* with them, and many foreign Countries. This Province with all its Dependencies, was yielded to the *Russia* by the Treaty concluded at *Petersburgh* in the Year 1723, but that Treaty has been since made void. The chief Towns of this Province are *Resht*, a fair and wealthy City about two Leagues distant from the Sea, *Gylan*, *Asherol*, and *Ferabat*.

13. ADIRBEITZAN is properly the South Part of the ancient *Media*, situated to the West of *Gylan*. The chief Towns are *Tauris*, supposed to be the ancient *Batana*, *Ardevil*, and *Sultana*.

*Tauris*, call'd by the *Perians* and *Turks*, *Tabriz*, supposed by *Diodorus Siculus* to have been founded by *Semiramis*, whilst *Josephus* assures us it was built, at least a Palace in it, by the Prophet *Daniel*. This City has often chang'd its Masters, sometimes the *Perians* and at other times the *Turks* having been in Possession of it. In the Year 1725 the *Turks*, after laying Siege to it carried it by Storm, whereupon all the Inhabitants without Distinction were put to the Sword, upwards of 100000 Souls perishing by that means.

14. SCHIRWAN, or *Shirwan*, lies North of *Adirbeitzan*, being the Northern Part of the ancient *Media*, and extends along the Western Coasts of the *Caspian Sea*. This is the most mountainous Province of *Perisia*. Its chief Towns are *Derbent*, at present the Key of *Perisia* between *Georgia* and *Dagestan*, *Scanchi*, and *Baku*, in the Neighbourhood of the latter which are those famous Springs of *Naphta* to be seen which is a liquid Bitumen of a darkish Colour, used by the *Perians* in their Fire-Works, and instead of Lamp-Oil.

15. DAGESTAN lies to the North of *Schirwan*, and West of the *Caspian Sea*. This Province is inhabited by *Tartars*, who are the most notorious Thieves in the World.

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plundering all they can come at, and making perpetual Inroads on their Neighbours. They dwell chiefly in Tents, and are perpetually shifting their Habitations; however there are some Towns to be met with in this Province, the only considerable one of which is *Tarka*.

16. GEORGIA, lying North-West of *Dagestan*, is a very large Province, abounding with great variety of Commodities, and excellent Wine, and is divided between the *Perians* and *Turks*. More Christians than Mahometans are to be found amongst the Inhabitants of this Province. Its chief Towns are *Teffis*, or *Cala*, *Gori*, and *Aly*; in the first of which is a handsome Cathedral, it being a Bishop's See, and fourteen Christian Churches besides.

17. ARMENIA, comprehending the greatest Part of ancient *Armenia*, and situated to the Southward of *Georgia*, is one of the finest, largest, and richest Provinces of *Peria*. It is very mountainous indeed, but notwithstanding that, it is productive of all kind of Pulse and Fruits. This Province produces as much Silk as any one in *Peria*, with which the *Armenian*-Christians, who are very numerous in this Country, carry on a very great Trade. *Armenia*, like *Georgia*, is shared between the *Turks* and *Perians*. Its Capital *Erivan*, or *Irvan*, is one of the great Passages to enter *Peria* on the Side of *Turkey*, which, join'd to the Trade of Silk that is driven in this Country, afford the Inhabitants a handsome Livelihood. The *Armenian*-Christians have several Churches in it, and the Country is overspread with their Convents. The other chief Towns are *Nacivan*, or *Nazzwan*, supposed by the Natives to be built by *Noah* when he first came out of the Ark, and which has been a vast Sufferer in the Wars between the *Turks* and *Perians*, and Old *Julpha*, which is now nothing but a heap of Ruins.

This Division of *Peria* into the above seventeen Provinces, is agreeable to the best and latest Accounts we have had of that Empire.

Each of these Provinces is govern'd by a *Chan* and a *Vizier*, the *Chan*, which signifies Lord or Prince, presiding over the Province in general, and the *Vizier* having the Government of those Towns or Villages which are the peculiar Property of the King.

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All these Governments are at the Nomination of the Shah or Emperor, excepting that of *Candahar*, which has always been Hereditary, because the Chans of that Province, which formerly belong'd to the *Great Mogul*, submitted voluntarily to the Crown of *Persia*. It was this dangerous Prerogative which made the Governors of *Candahar* so powerful as frequently to raise Rebellions in the Empire, and at last to dethrone their Masters, as was the Case in the late Revolutions of that Monarchy, but since that time they have been brought into the utmost Subjection by *Kouli-Kan*.

There are several other Officers put into each of these Provinces, some of whom, as well as the Vizier, are independant of the Chan; as Vacanavish or Secretary, whose Business is to transmit all Transactions of any Moment to Court, as also Governors of particular Towns and Castles, who are call'd Daruga's.

There are also in every Town the Cadi or Civil Judge, with a Mayor or Head Officer, together with a Provost or Sheriff, &c.

This Country reaching from the 25<sup>th</sup> to the 45<sup>th</sup> Degree of Latitude, the Seasons and Air must be very various. The Southern Parts of *Persia* are excessive hot, especially in the Summer-Months, when the hot Winds which blow from the Eastward over a large Tract of sandy Desarts are ready to suffocate the Inhabitants, and drive both Natives and Foreigners into the Mountains for Breath, notwithstanding which those Months are esteemed healthful enough. In the Spring and Fall the Air in these Parts is very unhealthful, particularly about *Gombron*, by means of which our Factors there seldom pass a Year without a dangerous Fit of Illness.

In the middle of the Kingdom their Winter begins and ends about the same time that ours does, in which Season they have very severe Frosts, and great Snows, especially upon the Mountains. They have high Winds in these Parts between the beginning of *March* and the end of *May*, from which time 'till *September* they have a calm serene Sky, without the least blemish of a Cloud; and though it be very hot in the Day, yet the refreshing Breezes which constantly blow Morning and Evening render this Season very tolerable. There are seldom any Hurricanes or extraordinary Tempests of Thunder and Light-

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Lightning, or destructive Earthquakes here. Upon the whole no Country is more healthful than the middle of *Perſia*, where the Air's so pure, and the Stars shine with such a peculiar Lustre, that Travellers, who journey most in the Night, know one another very well by their Light. The Inhabitants are of a very hale Complexion, nervous and robust, and generally enjoy a continued Series of Health.

Besides the Ocean there are two particular Seas belonging to *Perſia*, one on the North, the other on the South-West; the *Caspian Sea* and the *Gulph of Perſia* or *Boſſora*.

The *Caspian Sea*, which the *Latins* call *Caspium*, from the Neighbourhood of the City *Casbin*, is unquestionably the largest Lake in the known World. It is situated between the 37th and 47th Degree of Latitude, and the 77th and 83d Degree of Longitude, so that it may extend in its greatest Length about one hundred and fifty Leagues, and about seventy in Breadth.

The Waters of the *Caspian Sea* are extreamly salt towards the Middle, but not so much along the Coasts, because of the great number of Rivers which on all Sides empty their Channels into it. Many Philosophers have been at a loss to conceive how this Sea, receiving the Waters of so many Rivers without having communication with other Seas, should not appear to have the least Augmentation, but this Difficulty I think may soon be clear'd up. There's nothing to hinder why these Waters may not go off through the Bottom of the Lake in as large Quantities as they are poured in at the Sides; for as we are fully convinced, by Earthquakes, that the Earth is intersected by Veins of Water which communicate every where with the Surface, those Veins meeting at the Bottom of the Sea receive the Water from it, which they send out again upon Land by innumerable Springs. Without this continual Circulation of Waters, and if the Rivers, which empty themselves into the Seas, drew their Sources from elsewhere than those same Seas, an universal Deluge must in a small time prevail.

The *Caspian Sea* neither ebbs nor flows, it only being the Winds which make it swell and beat upon one Coast or the other, according to the different Motions it gives its Waters. This Sea is fifty or seventy Fathom deep

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deep thro' the Middle of it, but extreamly shallow towards the Coasts. It has a greenish Colour in common with all Sea-water, except on the Coast of *Gylan*, where it appears white from its Clay bottom, and in the Gulph of *Yemba*, where the Bottom being marshy, gives a black Hue to it.

This Sea abounds with all Sorts of excellent Fish, even Carp and Bream are frequently caught in it, which is something extraordinary considering the Saltneſs of its Waters. It also breeds Sea-Dogs, and a monſtrous kind of Fish which are all Head and Tail, and not fit for Food, but have ſuch an uncoimmon Strength that they ſometimes overturn the ſmall Fishing-Boats with their Tails. It is navigated chiefly by the *Muscovites*, who lie on the North-side of it, and the late *Czar* was cutting a Channel between the *Volga* and the *Don*, or *Tanais*, whereby he propos'd to open a Communication between the *Euxine* and *Caspian* Seas; but I think this Project is ſuspended at preſent. As to the *Persians* they don't apply themſelves to Navigation, and have few Veffels upon this or any other Sea.

The Gulph of *Perſia*, or *Bofſora*, is remarkable for the Pearl-Fiſhery there, which is the beſt in the World; it lies near the Iſland of *Baharem*. The moſt famous Iſland in the Gulph is *Ormuſ*, ſeated at the Entrance of it, and about ten Leagues in Circumference. While the *Portugueze* were Masters of this Iſle they commanded the Pearl-Fiſhery, and almoſt all the Trade of *Perſia*, and had buiſt one of the moſt elegant Cities in *Aſia* upon it.

In the laſt Century the *Persians*, affiſted by the *Engliſh East India Company's* Ships, expell'd the *Portugueze*, and reduc'd the Iſland to the Obedience of their Sovereign.

For this Piece of Service our Company were allow'd great Advantages in Trade, and had half the Customs paid by Ships in the *Perſian* Gulph ceeded to them. This Privilegię they enjoyed for neare threescore Years ſucceſſively, after which the *Persians* took the whole Custom into their own Hands again, and allowed the *Engliſh* Company a very large yearly Acknowledgement for their Service at *Ormuſ*.

There

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There is nothing now upon this Island but a mean Castle, the Trade being removed to the Town of *Gombren*, which is about two Leagues distant from it. The Island it self produces nothing but Salt, which grows some Inches deep in a solid Crust on the Surface of the Ground, and the Hills appear at a distance as if they were covered with Snow; nor is there a drop of fresh Water on the Island, but what is preserv'd in Cisterns.

As to the Rivers in *Perſia* there are very few that are navigable, considering the vast Extent of the Country. The River *Oxus*, indeed, which separates *Perſia* from *Uzbek-Tartary*, is a large Stream, but as there are no Branches of it which arise in the *Perſian* Dominions, it is of little Use to them.

The Rivers *Kur* and *Aras*, formerly called *Cyrus* and *Araxes*, which rise in Mount *Ararat*, and run through the Provinces of *Georgia*, *Schirwan* and *Adirbeitzan*, and having joined their Streams fall into the *Caspian* Sea, are the most considerable Rivers *Perſia* boasts of.

Water being very scarce in this Country, care is taken to husband it well and distribute it justly, accordingly proper Officers are appointed by the Crown in each Province to inspect the Distribution of it. The little Rivulets, which fall from the Mountains, are frequently conveyed by subterraneous Channels dug for that Purpose, and arched with Brick, to the principal Towns.

A great number of extreamly high Mountains are to be found throughout *Perſia*, of which Mount *Ararat*, *Caucasus* and *Taurus* are the most remarkable.

*Ararat* is situated in *Armenia*, and has always been famous for being the Place where it is supposed *Noah's* Ark first rested upon the going off of the Deluge. The *Armenians* and *Persians* pretend that the Remains of the Ark are still found on the Top of an inacceſſible Rock on that Mount, which they say was the particular Spot where it rested; Nay, *Struys*, a Monk, if you'll believe him, went up and brought away a Piece of the Wood, of which he produces a Certificate.

*Caucasus*, bordering on *Georgia*, is of a vast height, and has its Top always cover'd with Snow. It has fine Valleys lying at its Foot, with many pleafant Villages watered with pure and fruitful Streams.

*Taurus,*

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*Taurus*, now called by the *Perians* *Icilack Perjan*, takes it rise in *Perſia*, and extends quite to *India*, being much the longest in the known World.

Vast sandy Plains or Desarts are to be met with in the Heart of *Perſia*, which is not to be wonder'd at, considering that no Rivers are to be found there. The Province of *Chorazan* has a large share of these Plains, but the greatest part of them lie towards the Frontiers of the *Uzbek-Tartars*.

It may be expected that I should now proceed to give a particular Description of the principal Towns of this Empire, and of their publick and private Buildings, Furniture of their Houses, &c. but I shall content my self with taking Notice of only the Metropolis *Iſpahan*, in those Respects, from which the Reader may easily form a Judgment of the rest.

*A Description of Iſpahan, and what is most remarkable in it.*

*ISPAHAN*, or as it's pronounced *Spahawn*, is situated in 32 Degrees 40 Minutes North Latitude, and the 50th Degree of Longitude. This City is the Metropolis of *Perſia*, and the Place where their Monarchs constantly reside; it stands in a large and fertile Plain, which is enclosed on three Sides, like an Amphitheatre, by a Ridge of Mountains two or three Leagues from it.

It is surrounded by a Wall of Bricks baked in the Sun, the Compass of which is in all about twelve Miles, with a Tower and a Ditch full of Water, near which there are several Rows of Trees for the Conveniency of taking the air. The River *Zenderud* runs by it, at about a Mile's distance, from which Water is conveyed by Pipes and Channels into the Town.

The Streets of *Iſpahan* are narrow, crooked, and uneven, and did not the Wholsomeness of the Air make amends for the Negligence of the People, the Dirtiness of the Streets must breed many Distempers, every House having a Trench before it to throw out their Filth into; and the dead Bodies of Beasts, as well as the Blood of those for the Shambles being generally cast out into the publick Places. The Streets are not pav'd, and are generally

nerally pretty dark by reason of the Arches which cover the Bazars or Market-Places, and serve to walk dry under in rainy Weather from one House to another.

The general Form of the Houses is to have a Portico in the Middle, with a Fountain or Cistern of Water. On three of the Sides there are Windows on the Top to receive Light, underneath small Arches to admit the cool Air, and Rows of Rooms with Lattices curiously painted at the Windows. Farther in there is generally a great Room, where there are Quilts and Pillows stuffed with Cotton to sleep on, the Ground being covered with Carpets suitable to the Quality of the Owner. The Palaces of great Men seldom exceed two Floors in height, and on the four Sides of the Portico have two arched Rooms to each, adorned with *Arabian* Painting of all Colours. The Roof is flat after the *Napolitan* Fashion, and in Summer they lie upon it, because of the Heat.

There are some very fine Squares in this Town, particularly the Royal Square or Meidan, into which two of the Palace Gates open. On the Sides of this Square there are Buildings with Shops on both Sides, much like our Exchanges, with a second Story where Mechanicks have their Working-shops. On that side of the Square next the Palace there is a fine Row of Trees planted, with a handsome Bason of Water, and a hundred and ten Pieces of brass Cannon brought from *Ormus* when it was taken from the *Portuguese*, which serve for nothing but to make a shew. There stands a large Mosque on the South-End of the Square, and another Mosque on the East-End over-against the great Gate of the Palace.

The first of these is the King's Mosque, having a very beautiful Front with two Towers on the Sides ending at the Tops like Turbans. The first Gate leads into a Cloister, whose Arches are adorned with small Tiles of various Colours ; and the second Gate, which is covered with Plates of Silver, is the Way into the Mosque, which is painted all over within after the *Arabian* manner, and gilt ; so that the Arches seem to vie in Beauty with the Pavement, which is covered with the richest Carpets the Country affords.

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In the Middle of this noble Square is a Market for Horses and Cattle, as likewise for all manner of Goods and Provisions, contrary to the Intention of the great *Shah-Ahaas* who built the Square, he designing it for the manly Exercises, such as Horsemanship, the Bow, &c.

The Buildings of the Palace, with the Gardens belonging to it, take up above a League in Compass; the two Gates which come up to the Royal Meidan or Square, are one of them called *Alicapi*, and the other *Doulet Cuna*; over one of them is a Gallery where the Shah uses to sit and see martial Exercises perform'd on horse-back. No Part of the Palace where the Court resides is contiguous to the royal Square, but having entered the principal Gate there's a Hall or Court on the left-hand, where the Vizier and other Judges administer Justice on certain Days, and on the right are Rooms where Offenders are allowed to take Sanctuary. From hence to the Hall, where the King usually gives Audience, is a handsome Walk, being a long Room well painted and gilded, and supported by forty Pillars; it is divided into three Parts one a Step higher than the other, on which the great Officers stand according to their Rank, for as to hereditary Nobility there is no such thing in *Persia*. On the third Ascent is the Royal Throne, rais'd about a Foot and an half above the Floor, and about eight Feet square, on which is spread a rich Carpet; here the King sits cross-legged upon solemn Occasions, having a brocade Cushion under him, and another at his Back. As to the rest of the Apartments of the Palace, and particularly the Haram or Womens Apartments, neither Natives nor Foreigners can give an exact Description of them, none being permitted to enter but the Eunuchs; but in general they consist in separate Pleasure-houses dispersed about the Gardens, much of the same Form with the Houses first described, with fine Walks, Fountains and Cascades about them; beyond the Gardens the Emperor has a large Park walled in, where the Ladies hunt and take their Diversions with his Majesty.

The Bagnios in *Ispahan* are very numerous, the Buildings of the generality of which are globular, and of a white polish'd Stone, having their Tops covered with painted Tiles. The Apartments of the Inside are laid with black and white Marble, some of which are for bathing

bathing and sweating, and the others for Pleasure.

Adjoining to the City, and extending from it about a Mile's Length to the River *Zenderboud*; is the Walk *Charbag*, so much admir'd by Travellers, consisting of a double Row of Trees on each side, and a running Canal in the Middle, whose Sides are lin'd with hewn Stone: The Canal not being continued on a Level, the Water at every Furlong's distance falling into a large Basin, forms a Cascade. On each side of this Walk are the Royal Gardens, and those of the Grandees, with several Pleasure-houses at a small distance.

The City of *Ispahan* is so populous on account of the Wholsomeness of the Air, and the Conveniency of Trade, that they call it half the World; and not without reason, as well for the Diversity of Tongues spoke there, as for the prodigious Wealth of its Bazars, and Shops of all sorts of Commodities.

The *Perſians* are a civiliz'd, peaceable, modest People, and the generality of them Men of bright Parts. Being Lovers of Learning they have their Colleges or *Medres* where the Sciences are taught. They are particularly addicted to Poetry, and have an excellent Genius for it: Every one of their great Men have a Poet in their Family, and in each grand Entertainment that's made, he's called in to oblige the Company with his Compositions. Their Invention in their Poetical Pieces is fruitful and lively, and their Language has a peculiar Softness in it proper for Verse, which they mix with all the Prose they write, and frequently with common Conversation. Several other of the Sciences are studied by them, but they have a particular Esteem for, and Faith in Judicial Astrology. They have Choice *Arabick* Books, many of which are translated into the *Perſian* Tongue, but all in Manuscript, Printing being not hitherto introduced among them.

The *Perſians* are extreamly addicted to Women, and are charged with Lewdness of a more heinous Nature. Their Vanity in their Cloaths, Equipages and Attendants is very exceſſive, but in other respects they are rather avaritious. They are very personable Men, of a good Stature and agreeable Features, and in the Northern Parts of the Empire of an admirable Complexion, but towards the South are something more upon the Olive.

The

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The Cloaths both of their Men and Women are of the richest Silks and Sables, which last amount to a vast Price: Their Turbans also are very expensive, an ordinary one costing ten Pounds Sterling, of which they think they ought to have great variety: Their Sashes likewise being richly wrought are very expensive: All this, with the rich Furniture and Equipage they have when they ride out, keeps them generally very poor. The Garb of the Women is not very different from that of the Men, excepting that they neither wear Turbans on their Heads, nor Sashes round their Waists, and that their Coats and Vests reach down to their Feet. If ever they appear in the Streets, which Women of Distinction seldom do, they wear a white Veil from Head to Foot; and in order to be conceal'd, as much as possible, when they travel they are put into a square Machine of Timber, of which they hang one on each Side of a Camel, there being no Wheel-Carriages in this Country. These Machines are just large enough for one Person to sit down in, and over Head are Bails upon which a kind of Tilt is cast. The generality of People travel with the Caravan, consisting of five or six hundred Camels, besides other Beasts, and there's no Place where they travel with greater Security, or less Expence, there being Caravanseras or Inns at proper Distance, where they have their Lodging gratis, and their Provisions at an easy rate.

As to the Food made use of by the *Perians* it is very simple, the greatest part of it consisting in Rice, Fruit, and Garden-Vegetables, they having no great variety of Flesh, and scarce any variety in their way of dressing it, being absolute Strangers to Ragouts, Fricasses, and the other compound Viands we *Europeans* indulge in, and consequently Strangers to the good Scurvies, Gouts, and Rheumatisms such Luxuries produce.

Tho' excellent Wine is made in several Provinces, there is but a little of it drank by the Natives, it being prohibited by their Religion, so that the *Armenians* and *Christians* consume the greatest part of it: However they make use of Opium, Poppy-seed, and other intoxicating Ingredients to help them to sustain the Cares and Inquietudes of Life.

They

They excel in many manly Exercises, particularly in Horsemanship, and the Use of the Bow ; and are taught to manage the Sabre or Back-sword, and to throw the Lance.

The *Persian* Religion is Mahometism as contained in the *Alcoran*, and explain'd by *Aly* the Son-in-Law of *Mahomet*, and one of his Successors in the Empire. The Mahometans in general make two Articles of Faith, and five of Practice.

1. That there is no other God but God. 2. That *Mahomet* was sent from God. 3. That they ought to observe their corporal Purifications. 4. That they pray to God at the appointed Times. 5. That they give Alms to the Poor. 6. That they fast all the Month of *Ramzan*. 7. That they go in Pilgrimage to *Mecca*, if possible. To these the *Perians* add another Article of Faith, That *Aly* is the Vicar of God. Nay, their Doctors carry it still farther, and say that he was of a divine Nature, and that God was incarnate in him, and hold that he is not dead, but taken up to Heaven, and that he shall come from Paradise again, and fill the World with his Doctrine, and that 'twas by him the World was created, &c. thus exalting him sometimes above *Mahomet* himself. But as the *Perians* differ in many Particulars from the other Followers of *Mahomet*, especially the *Turks*, between whom a mortal Enmity reigns upon that Account, I shall give the Reader a short Narrative of the Rise and Grounds of that Difference.

When *Mahomet* died, *Aly* his Son-in-Law, and *Abubeker* his Father-in-Law, both laid Claim to the Succession. The People being divided in their Opinions, the Dispute came to be tried by Force of Arms, and several Battles were fought between them with various Successes.

*Abubeker* dying in a short time, *Omar*, one of *Mahomet's* Captains, succeeded to his Pretensions, which he maintained so well for ten Years together that *Aly* was reduced to the utmost Straits. Upon *Omar's* Death *Osman*, a Relation of his, got himself proclaim'd his Successor, and opposed *Aly* with as much Success as his Predecessor had done; but dying in a few Years *Aly* was universally acknowledged by both Parties for the Successor of *Mahomet*; here then was the Foundation of

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the Differences between the *Perfians* and the *Turks*, and other Mahometans.

The *Perfians* some time afterwards determined *Aly* to be the next great Prophet, and only true Successor to their Law-giver, whereas the *Turks* won't hear of *Aly's* being the greatest Prophet after *Mahomet*, but give that Honour to *Abubeker*, and then to *Omar* and *Osman*, who were the first Successors; deeming *Aly* the least of the four Prophets.

The *Perfians* and *Turks* likewise disagree as much about the Interpretation of the Alcoran, as they do about the Successors of *Mahomet*; as likewise in abundance of Ceremonies, and particular Opinions, of little Moment to us. The *Perfians* assume the Name of *Sbiais* in Opposition to the *Turks*, their greatest Opposites in Point of Doctrine, who take the Name of *Sunnis*, whilst the hatred between those two Nations on Account of their different Opinions about Religion is more violent, if possible, than that which reigns between the Roman Catholicks and Protestants in Christendom.

Notwithstanding that the Mahometans are the governing Part of this Country, they are not the greatest foreign Traders, the *Armenian*-Christians, and *Banians* of *India*, having much the larger share, they managing the whole *European* Commerce; upon this Account the Government, out of Policy, protect and encourage their Christian Subjects, the Revenue which their foreign Trade brings in being of high Consequence to them.

The Staple Commodity of *Perfia* is Silk raw and manufactured, of which great Quantities are exported to *India*, *Turkey*, *Muscovy*, *England*, *Holland*, &c. They likewise export Carpets, Camels-Hair, Goats-Wool, Leather, Wine, distilled Waters, Pistachio-Nuts, Dates, &c. and supply *India* with a great number of fine Horses at high Prices.



*A Genealogy of the late ROYAL FAMILY  
of PERSIA, with an Account of the Rebel-  
lion under MERWEYS and his Succe-  
sors, to the Time of KOULI-KAN's as-  
cending the Throne.*

I Shall not pretend in this Introduction to enter upon the History of the ancient Kings of *Perſia*, but shall only give a compendious Narrative of the Rise, Establishment and Extinction of the late famous Family of the *Sefi's* or *Sophi's*, who were the immediate Predeceſſors of *Kouli-Kan*.

*Tamerlane* having defeated *Bajazet*, and returning thro' *Perſia* with a great number of Captives, *Sheich Adir*, a Doctor of Law, in great Reputation amongst the Mahometans for his Sanctity, obtained of him the Release of most of his Prisoners, which greatly augmented his Fame and Interest with his Countrymen, insomuch that when *Tamerlane* went away the *Sheich* began to entertain Thoughts of assuming the Sovereign Power himself. In order to this he gave out that he was rightly descended from *Aly* the Son-in-Law of *Mahomet*, and took upon him the Name of *Caliph*, which signifies Priest as well as Prince. *ISMAEL SEFI* or *SOPHI*, the Son of *Adir*, followed his Father's Steps, and being ſuccesful in ſeveral Battles eſtablished himſelf at laſt on the Throne, and is reckon'd the firſt King of the late Royal Family. This happened about the Year 1490, and from that Time forwards *Perſia* was called the Kingdom of *SEFI* or *SOPHI*, as being ſubject to the Race of *Ismael Sefi*.

*Tammus* ſucceeded his Father *Ismael*, and *Tammus* left for his Successor *Ismael* the Second, who by Reaſon of his Cruelty ſate but a ſhort Time on the Throne, his Brother *Mahomet Codabende*, tho' unskill'd in Government, being ſet up by the great Ones in his Place. Some are of Opinion this Man was blind, but the truth of it is that his Eyes were weakened by a red-hot

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Iron which his Brother caused to be held to them the first Day he came to the Crown, a Custom which continues to this Day amongst his Successors. After *Mahomet*, Shah *Abas* the First his Son reigned, and was called *The Great* for his extraordinary Wisdom and Valour, by which he extended the Limits of the Empire, conquering the Kingdoms of *Lar*, *Ormus*, *Candahar*, and other Cities and Provinces. Of many Sons he had, only *Sefi Mirza* liv'd, who having a Son by a Slave the Grandfather grew so fond of that Child, and so averse to his own Son, that he ordered a Grandee of the Court to put him to Death. However, afterwards upon Sight of his Head he lamented bitterly, seiz'd all the Goods of him that executed the cruel Order, and gave them to another whom he had before banished for refusing to obey this unnatural Command. Shah *Abas* dy'd about the end of the Year 1628, having reign'd forty Years; ordering that after his Death the Crown should devolve to Shah *Sefi* his Grandson.

Shah *Sefi* coming to the Throne lived long enough to give some notable Specimens of his Cruelty and Brutality, and then died in the Year 1642 of excessive Drinking.

His Son Shah *Ahas* the Second succeeded him, having been kept at *Casbin*, so that he did not make his solemn Entry into *Ispahan* till the beginning of the ensuing Year 1643; he reigned twenty one Years with the Reputation of a valiant and noble Prince, but so addicted to Drunkenness that he caused three of his Women to be burned for refusing to drink more Wine. He died of an Inflammation, caus'd by that Vice, in the City *Telizon* in the Year 1664.

He was succeeded by his Son Shah *Sefi* the Second, who afterwards changed his Name, and assumed that of *Solyman*. Having led his Life before he came to the Crown either amongst Women or the black Eunuchs, he had learned nothing but Cruelty and Lasciviousness. Giving way to his blood-thirsty Genius he at first govern'd with the utmost Rigour and Severity, putting to Death many of the Grandees of his Court upon very slight Occasions; but afterwards addicting himself altogether to Drunkenness, and the Pleasures of the Haram, he so absolutely lost his Authority that he had nothing left

left but the bare Name of a King, leaving the whole Charge of the Government to *Mirza-Taber* the Prime Vizier, who had gained the first place in his Favour. This Prime Minister was the most rapacious Wretch that ever lived, disposing of every thing to those that bid most, and stooping to take the lowest Bribe, even when he was upwards of fourscore Years old. *Solyman* died in the Year 1694 of an Apoplexy, occasioned by his excessive Drinking.

His Son Shah *Hussein* succeeded to the Crown, whom his Father absolutely prohibited to practise that barbarous Custom of putting out the Eyes of his Brothers, but whether he obeyed this Command or not is very uncertain. This Prince was naturally indolent and careless, living entirely amongst his Women in the Haram, and leaving the Reins of Government to his Ministers, who oppressed his Subjects in every respect, setting up every thing to Sale, and distributing Justice according to Pay and not Desert. In short, a universal Luxury and Corruption, which is the certain Consequence of it, spread throughout the Empire. All the Martial Exercises were neglected, their rural Sports forgotten, and their publick Buildings laid aside, whilst their whole Time was employed, after the Example of their Prince, in Lasciviousness and Sloth, or else in devouring and preying upon their Fellow-Subjects.

At this Time the famous *Mereweys*, who held a Post under the Government, was displaced in favour of another who outdid him in Presents, but making Use of his Friends he raised so a considerable Sum in a short time as to get himself reinstated. Being, however, both impoverished and disgusted by this Treatment, and taking Advantage of the Weakness of the Government, and his Distance from the Court, he determined to seize on the neighbouring Province of *Candahar*, the Country of the *Agwans*, and to set up for himself. This Design he communicated to his Friends the *Tartars*, over a large Body of whom he had a Command, being likewise a *Tartar* himself by Birth. The *Tartars* readily agreed to assist him in his Enterprize; but the City of *Candahar* being a Frontier towards *India*, and a large Body of Troops being upon that account quartered thereabouts, he chose rather to have recourse to Stratagem than Force.

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When he, therefore, received the renewal of his Commission he pretended to have likewise received another Commission to succeed the Governor of *Candahar* in that Province, and accordingly marched, thither at the Head of his Forces. When he came within a small distance of the Town, he sent to the Governor to acquaint him with his pretended Commission, who coming out of the Town to meet him, as is usual upon those Occasions, and as *Mereweys* expected, the Troops of the latter, being properly posted for that purpose, fell upon the Governor's Guards, cut them to Pieces, and with *Mereweys* at their Head entered the City before it was known what had happened.

The Province of *Candahar* formerly belonged to *India*, and *Mereweys* had no further Views at this time, than the erecting it into an independent State; but this he could not expect to accomplish without forming some powerful Alliances: In order, therefore, to protect himself against the Forces of the *Persian* Empire, which he had reason to expect would be suddenly brought down against him, he dispatched an Omrah to the *Mogul's* Court to give advice of his Success, and to propose an Alliance against *Persia*, the ancient Enemy of *India*. This was joyfully received by the *Mogul*, who began now to entertain thoughts of recovering the Province of *Candahar*, and restoring it again to his Dominions, which he imagined would be no hard matter to effect, if he could make *Mereweys* dependent on him. He sent him all imaginable Assurances of his Friendship, offering him at the same time what Number of Troops he thought fit to support him, and giving him the Title he then aspired to, namely, that of Prince of *Candahar*.

The *Persian* Ministry receiving Advice of the Surprise of *Candahar* by *Mereweys*, detached a Body of four or five thousand Horse to endeavour to reduce him; but *Mereweys* having been joined by the *Uzbek-Tartars*, and some others, who, in hopes of meeting with glorious Plunder in *Persia*, came in every Day to him, did not shut himself up in *Candahar*, but attack'd the *Persians* in their March, and defeated them. This Success made him begin to extend his Views, and he seemed now to aim at a Revolution: He therefore dispatched his Emissaries into all the Provinces, and even unto *Is-*

*pahan*

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*pahan* it self, who loudly complain'd of Male-Administration, and the Oppressions and personal Vices of the Shah, who, he insinuated, was unworthy to command the true Believers.

The Ministry were now sufficiently alarmed, but they had disengaged so many of the great Omrahs and Chams, that they knew not whom to trust; should they assemble them with their Troops to make head against this formidable Rebel, they were under apprehension lest they should join with him, at least in exposing their Administration, and perhaps might demand their Heads as an Atonement for their Crimes. On the other hand, if they suffered him to march forwards without Opposition, they knew the Consequence would be no less fatal. They dispatched another General therefore, whose Skill and Fidelity in military Affairs they had a great opinion of, to watch the motions of *Mereweys*, and awe the Country at least, that they should not go over to him, or supply him with Provisions; but this Detachment had no better Success than the former, being surprised by *Mereweys*, and most of them cut off. In these two Engagements he furnished his Followers with Arms and Accoutrements, who were at first little better than a naked Rabble, and began now to talk of advancing to the Capital *Ispahan*; but as there was a vast Extent of Country between *Candahar* and *Ispahan*, and his Troops did not yet amount to more than eight or ten thousand Horse, he thought proper to strengthen himself by an Alliance with the Grand-Seignior first, and to put the City of *Candahar* into a Condition to resist any Attempts that might be made upon it in his Absence. His Negotiations at the Porte succeeded to his Heart's Desire, for the Basia of *Bagdat* was ordered to assemble an Army immediately, and to march with it to the Frontiers of *Persia*. And now *Mereweys* began to throw off all Disguises, styling himself *Protector of the Kingdom of Persia*, and preparing for his March to *Ispahan*; but in the midst of all his Projects, when he had grasped the whole World in Imagination, Death put a period to his Views.

This had probably discouraged his Adherents, and been fatal to the Cause, if he had not left behind him a Son equal, if not superior, to him in every respect;

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his Name was *Mahamood*. This Gentleman being conscious of the great Reputation his Father had gained by the Surprize of *Candabar*, and the Victories he had obtained, thought fit to conceal his Death, and to transact all Affairs in his Name 'till his own Reputation should be established. Accordingly all things went on as if *Mereweys* was alive; the Preparations for marching to *Ispahan* were continued, new Forces raised, and new Alliances cultivated, as if no such Accident had happened.

The *Turk* and the *Muscovite* did not fail to make their Advantages of these Distractions in *Perſia*: The *Muscovites* surprised *Derbent* and *Tartku*, which lay next them on the West-side of the *Caspian Sea*, and afterwards extended their Arms into *Gylan*, or the ancient *Hyrcania*, and all along the South Coast of the same Sea. The *Turks* took possession of several frontier Provinces and Towns, as *Tauris*, *Erivan*, &c. meeting with little or no Opposition. The *Perſian* Ministry were now in the utmost Conſternation, not knowing which way to turn themselves; and what added to this Misfortune was that the Treasury was entirely exhausted.

They came however to this Resolution at last, to let the Frontiers shift for themselves, and to assemble an Army of eight or ten thousand Horse about *Ispahan* to oppose the Usurper, who was in full march towards that Capital. *Mereweys* dying at *Candabar*, as it has been said, his Son *Mahamood* had the Command of the Army when it marched to *Ispahan*. The King, when he understood the Usurper's Army was in the Neighbourhood of the capital City, and that the People in general were displeased at the Administration, proposed to his Grandees, to resign his Crown, and to set his Son *Shah Thamas* on the Throne, which was generally approved of; but the poor young Gentleman, who had never been out of the Seraglio, and had been sufficiently frightened by the Representations the Eunuchs had made of the Strength and Power of the Usurper, declined the Offer, looking upon it that he was only set up to be made a Sacrifice of. Upon this the Emperor sent him away privately into the Province of *Mazanderan*,

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deran, to continue there in Safety 'till he could find an Opportunity of vindicating his Father's Cause, or revenging it upon the Rebels.

Mahamood a few Days after laid siege to *Ispahan*, which he got possession of in a very little time, making the Emperor and the whole Court his Prisoners, which happened in the Month of *February* 1722. No sooner had he effected this than he cut off the Heads of the Prime Minister, and some others, who had been for several Years fleecing the People, and confiscated the Goods of all that had been their Creatures, whereby he replenished his own Coffers, and gave great Satisfaction to the Populace in general, who never fail to rejoice at the Destruction of their Oppressors, without reflecting very nicely upon the Means by which it is brought about.

The Emperor *Hussein* was soon after sent under a Guard to *Candahar*, and the Usurper took possession of his Royal Palace and Treasures, transplanting from the Province of *Candahar* many thousand Families to people *Ispahan*, the Inhabitants of which he dispersed through the remotest Parts of the Kingdom.

Mahamood's Usurpation was remarkable for nothing but Cruelty and Bloodshed; however he did not long enjoy the Fruits of his Rebellion before one of his principal Officers, named *Esreff*, encouraged by the *Agwans*, conspired against him, and finding means to put him to Death, succeeded him in the Government.

*Esreff* being raised in so sudden and unexpected a manner to be one of the greatest Potentates in *Asia*, bent his Thoughts entirely to the securing himself on the Throne: In order to which he resolved, at all Events, to contract Alliances with *Russia* and the *Porte*, which he tempted them to by confirming to them all the Places they had seized upon the Frontiers of *Persia* during the late Commotions: But these very Alliances, by which he thought he had compleatly established himself in Possession of the Crown, proved in great measure the Cause of its being wrested from him; for the People seeing their Country thus dismembered, and their best Towns given up to their Neighbours, began to turn their Thoughts upon the young Prince *Thamas*, who had by this time got together a considerable Body of Forces

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Forces in the Northern Provinces. This Prince had already given a Specimen of his Bravery by opposing the *Turks*, who during the *Usurpation of Mahamood* attempted to penetrate into *Perſia* by way of *Tauris*; for *Thamas*, having Intelligence of this their Intention, went out to meet them with a raw undisciplined Crew he had got together, attacked them in their March, and gave them a signal Defeat. This heroic Conduct of the young Prince, together with the Behaviour of *Esreff*, which was quite the reverse, drew over Numbers to his Party every day.

It was at this Juncture that *Nadir-Kouli*, the Hero of the following History, presented himself to *Thamas* with a Tender of his own Service, and that of his Followers, who amounted to the Number of seven thousand Men, engaging to place him on the Throne of his Ancestors upon the Conditions mentioned in the ensuing History, and which, after many successful Battles with the Usurper, he punctually performed.



## *A Description of India-Proper, or the Mogul Empire.*

**I**NDIA-PROPER, or the Empire of the *Great-Mogul*, is bounded on the East by the Kingdom of *Ava*, on the West by *Perſia*, on the South by the great *Indian Ocean*, and by *Usbek-Tartary* and *Ithibet* on the North. It is situated between 7 and 40 Degrees North Latitude, and between 66 and 92 Degrees East Longitude; the Extent therefore of this great Empire is nineteen hundred and eighty Miles from North to South, and fifteen hundred Miles from East to West.

*India*, or *Indoſtan*, is generally thought to have taken its Name from the River *Indus*, and notwithstanding that the *Moguls* call it *Mogulſtan* from the Title of their Sovereign, who is called the *Great-Mogul*, yet it is much more known by the Name of *India* to all Foreigners. It is divided into thirty six Provinces, of each of which we shall not pretend here to give a particular Account,

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Account, but only take notice of some of the principal of them.

The first Province we come into, when we go from *Perſia*, is *Cabul*, which is contiguous to the *Perſian* Province of *Candahar*, lying to the West of the River *Indus*. Its Capital is called by the same Name of *Cabul*, which is a very large and well fortified City.

This Province, with all the Country on that side of the *Indus*, was ceded to the present Emperor of *Perſia* upon his replacing the *Mogul* upon the Throne, after his late Conquest of *Indoſtan*.

The Province of *Sindi* or *Tata* is contiguous likewise to *Perſia*, whose Capital is *Tata*, lying upon a small Island made by the Western Branch of the *Indus*, a Town much traded to formerly by the *Portuguese*: The River *Send* or *Indus* discharges it self by several Mouths into the Gulph of *Sindi*, and gives its Name to the whole Empire, as well as this Province.

The Province of *Atock* has for its Capital a large City of the same Name, situate on the *Indus* in 33 Degrees North Latitude.

The Province of *Labor* lies to the East of *Atock*, the chief Town of which is likewise called *Labor*, seated on the River *Ravi*, a Branch of the *Indus* in the Latitude of 33 Degrees odd Minutes. This large City was founded by the *Mogul Homagion*, who built a magnificent Palace in it, which was for some time the Imperial Seat, but it has since been removed to *Agra*, and from thence to *Delly*.

The Province of *Delly* is contiguous to the South-side of *Labor*, having a large City of the same Name for its Capital, in the Latitude of 20 Degrees odd Minutes, seated on the Bank of the River *Jemma* in form of a Crescent, being about three Leagues in Circumference. This Town is the Metropolis of the Empire, where the present Great *Mogul*, *Mamet-Cha*, has his Residence. There are several noble wide Streets in it, having Piazzas on each side, under which are Shops and Warehouses. These Streets terminate in a large beautiful Square, on one side of which stands the Royal Palace fortified like a Castle with a Wall, Towers, and a Moat, being two Miles in Circumference. There is likewise in this Town a grand Mosque, with several marble Domes, and a magnificent *Caravansera*, built

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built for the Entertainment of Strangers by a *Mogul* Princess. Near the Tomb of *Homagion* is an ancient Stone Pyramid, said to be erected by *Alexander the Great* after the Defeat of *Porus*. The fine Walk of Trees, which reaches from *Agra* to *Labor*, being near five hundred Miles in Length, runs by this City.

The Province of *Agra*, sometimes called *Indostan*, lies to the Southward of *Delly*, and is adjoining to it. *Agra*, the Capital of this Province, and lately the Royal Place of Residence, is situated in 27 Degrees odd Minutes North Latitude. The Palace in this Town, which was built by the *Mogul* *Ecbar*, who indeed rebuilt the whole City, is one of the finest Pieces of Architecture in the East.

Within a few Miles of *Agra* stands the Town of *Secandria*, the Burying-place of the *Mogul* Emperors, in which the two stately Tombs of *Acbar* and *Jehan's* Empress are said to exceed any thing of that kind in the World.

The Province of *Cassimere* is one of the Northern Boundaries of the Empire, having the Province of *Labor* contiguous to it on the South, and *Cabul* on the West; it is encompassed on every side with Mountains, but is itself a fine fertile Plain, abounding with a Multitude of Rivulets which descend from the Hills.

The Town of *Cassimere*, which is the Capital of this Province, lies in the Latitude of 35 Degrees odd Minutes, seated upon a small Lake. This has been frequently made the Summer-Retreat of the *Mogul* Emperors, attended by their great Omrah's and Souba's, so that there are many beautiful Palaces, Gardens and Canals in its Neighbourhood, which render the Country delightful, and occasion it to be stiled *The Paradise of the Indies*.

These six Provinces I have mentioned, with sixteen others, are called the Northern Provinces, they lying on the North-side of the Tropick of *Cancer*, on the South-side of which lies the hither Peninsula of India, consisting of fourteen Provinces, the Eastern Part of which is called the Coast of *Cormandel*, and the West the Coast of *Malabar*. The Provinces, Towns, and Factories on the Sea-coast being the most remarkable Particulars in this Southern Part of the Empire, we shall content

content our selves with a short Account of the chief of those.

And First; for the Province or Kingdom of *Bengal*, which is the most Eastern Part of the *Mogul's* Dominions, and is reckoned the most fruitful of any belonging to that Prince, by reason of the River *Ganges* dividing itself into several Branches here, and over-flowing the Country annually as the *Nile* does *Egypt*. It has a great Trade for Silk, Calicoes and other Stuffs, and carries on a vast Commerce with a neighbouring People, called *Patanes* or *Patanders*, whose Country abounds with Camphire, Pepper, Ivory, Cocoa-Nuts, white and stained Calicoes, &c. And our *East-India Company* have Factories and a large Trade at *Dava*, the chief Town in the Province, lying in 24 Degrees N. Latitude.

The Province of *Golconda* is situated between 15 and 19 Degrees of North Latitude, Westward to the Bay of *Bengal*, having several Towns upon the Coast famous for their Trade in Diamonds, and other precious Stones, of which there are many inestimable Mines in this Country, particularly a noble One in a large Plain seven Days Journey East of *Agra*, called by the Natives *Gani*.

*Madras*, or *Fort St. George*, as it is commonly called from the *English* Fort erected there, stands in 13 Degrees odd Minutes Latitude, and 80 Degrees Longitude. The Fort is a regular Square about a hundred Yards on each Side, with four Bastions, in the Middle of which stands the Governor's House, which is a lofty square Stone Building, containing likewise Apartments for the Company's Servants. The Fort stands pretty nigh the Center of the white Town, where the *Europeans* inhabit, the Houses whereof are built with Brick, and are generally two Stories high, being upwards of a hundred in Number.

To the Northward, adjoining to the White Town, is what they call the Black Town, which is much larger than the former, where the *Indians*, *Armenians* and a great variety of other People inhabit.

Besides the Town of *Madras* our *East-India Company* have several of the adjacent Villages under their Command, which yield them a considerable Revenue,

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the whole having been purchased of the King of Golganda when he was Sovereign of this Coast, before the Conquest of it by Aurengzebe.

As to the Trade of this Place, I shall omit speaking of it till I give an Account of the Trade of India in General.

The next chief Place on this Coast is *Fort St. David's* in the Latitude of 11 Degrees 40 Minutes, which was purchased by our *East-India Company* about fifty Years ago. It is now regularly fortified, and is of the greatest Consequence, next to *Fort St. George*, of any Place they possess upon this Coast, being a great Mart for Calicoes and Muslins.

There are several other small Settlements lying along this Coast from North to South enjoyed by the *English*, *French*, *Dutch*, and *Portuguese*. This Coast of *Cormandel* has a multitude of fine Pagan Temples upon it, which serve as Sea-Marks to the Mariners.

We come next to the Coast of *Malabar*, the Country adjacent to which is still divided among several petty Princes or Rajas, who preserve a kind of Independency of the *Great Mogul*; but the Sea-Ports are most of them in the Hands of the *Europeans*.

The first of these, which is worthy Notice, is *Surat*, situated in the Latitude of 21 Degrees odd Minutes, and 72 Longitude, upon the River *Tapie* about ten Miles from the Sea, in the Province of *Guzarate*, and is the prime Mart of *India*.

All Nations in the World trade to this Place, no Ship sailing the *Indian Ocean* but what puts in there, either to buy or sell. In the Middle of the Town is a large Place called *Castle Green*, where all Sorts of Goods are expos'd to Sale in the open Air, and where both the *Europeans* and Natives place their Bails, and prepare to load their Ships. There is a vast Trade here not only for all Sorts of Spices, but likewise for very rich Gold and Silk Stuffs, Velvets, Taffetas, fine Cottons, Muslins, &c. brought thither from *Persia* and other remote Parts.

The Governor of the Castle belonging to *Surat* is appointed by the *Great Mogul* every three Years, that Monarch being watchful over the Port, which is at present the greatest for Trade in *India*.

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The *East-India Company* have a President at this Place, who lives in much Grandeur, together with several Factors, an Accountant, Store-Keeper, Writers, &c. as likewise a Chaplain, who is treated with great Marks of Respect, and takes the second Place in the Council. The President of this Port has the Superintendency of all the Settlements of the *East-India Company*, and of their Factors and Agents on the West-side of *India*, and towards the North.

The *English*, as well as other Nations, have their Burying-places about Half a Mile from the Town, where they vie with each other in the Magnificence of their Tombs; in ridicule of this foolish Imitation of the Mahometans, a jovial *Dutchman* ordered one to be erected for him adorned with three large Punch-Bowls, in which his Countrymen, according to his last Request, frequently remember him 'till they forget themselves. Tho' the *European Merchants* have a great Trade in this Place, it is not to be compared with what the *Moors, Armenians, Banians, Arabians, and Jews* carry on in it.

The Island and Fort of *Bombay* lie in the Latitude of 19 Degrees. This Island, being about thirty Miles in Circumference, was first in the Possession of the *Portuguese*, but was afterwards given up to King *Charles the Second* upon his Marriage with the Princess *Katharine, Infanta of Portugal*, as part of her Dowry, who presented it some time afterwards to the *East-India Company*.

The Fort is strong and regularly fortified, having upwards of a hundred Pieces of Cannon mounted. The President of *Surat* is generally Governor of this Island, who has a Deputy here, and Courts of Justice after the *British Model*.

We come next to speak of the City of *Goa*, which is seated in the Latitude of 15 Degrees 20 Minutes North, upon the River *Mandoua*; and is enclosed with a high Wall, and fortified with Bastions and Redoubts. This City stretches two Miles in Length along the Channel upon an uneven Ground, being about half a Mile broad. It is in Possession of the *Portuguese*, and was formerly the Metropolis of their Dominions in *India*, which were once very extensive, they being the first

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first Discoverers on those Coasts, but are since greatly reduced, insomuch that *Goa* is now almost the only considerable Settlement they have.

The Country round this City is one of the most delightful in the World, and the Channel, which makes this noble Port, runs many Miles up the Country, dividing it into several fruitful Islands and Peninsula's. These plentifully supply the City with Necessaries, delight the Palate with rich Fruits, afford curious Prospects, and yield much Profit to the Proprietors.

About thirty Miles to the Southward of *Goa* stands the City of *Carwar* in the Latitude of 15 Degrees, which belongs to the *English East-India Company*, and is one of the most pleasant and healthful Settlements they have upon the *Malabar Coast*.

The other principal Ports and Settlements on this Coast, till we come to *Cape Comorin*, are first *Mangalore*, the greatest Mart for Rice in *India*, and which is open to all Nations.

The City of *Calacut*, lying in 11 Degrees 20 Minutes Latitude, where several *European* Nations have their Factories, and trade without Restraint, particularly the *English*.

The City of *Cochin*, standing in nine Degrees 50 Minutes Latitude, which is a great Town of Trade, and much the best Settlement the *Dutch* have upon the *Malabar Coast*; and they have by Fortifications, built with the Stones of the Churches they pulled down, which were very numerous there when the *Portuguese* possessed the Place, rendered it almost impregnable.

*Anjengo*, lying in 8 Degrees 40 Minutes Latitude, which is the most Southerly Settlement the *English* have upon this Coast, and where the *India Company* have built a Fort lately to secure their Pepper Trade: And lastly the Town of *Tegapatan*, standing thirty Miles Northward of *Cape Comorin* where the *Dutch* have a Fort and Factory.

The principal Manufactures in the *Mogul's Empire* are Silks, Calicoes and Muslins, but we likewise import from thence Diamonds and other precious Stones, great quantities of Pepper, Salt-Peter, Cardamumis, Indigo, Opium, and a great variety of Medicinal Drugs.

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There are no greater Merchants in the World than the Subjects of the *Mogul*, notwithstanding their Shipping never passes the *Cape of good Hope*, they driving a vast Commerce with *Persia*, the *Red-Sea*, and *Turkey*, and supplying those Places with all the rich Merchandise of *India*, in Return for which they take immense Treasure.

As to the Climate, the Northern Parts of this Country are temperate, and the Winds variable, but towards the South they are frequently subject to excessive Heats, the Sun being there Vertical some part of the Year. The Winds are likewise periodical, and return to stated Points at certain times of the Year, as in most Countries within the Tropicks. These Winds are called *Moonsoons*, which out at Sea blow six Months one way, and six Months another, viz. from *April* to *October* from the South-West, and from *October* to *April* from the North-East, tho' they sometime vary a small matter from those Points.

The principal Rivers in the *Mogul's Empire* are, first the *Ganges*, the Source whereof is in *Tartary*, and its Course from North-West to South-East, emptying it self by several deep Channels into the Bay of *Bengal*. Next the *Indus*, which waters the Western side of *India*, as the *Ganges* does the East, running a Course, like that, of near three thousand Miles from the North-East to the South-West, and emptying itself by three Channels into the *Indian Ocean*, in about 24 Degrees Northern Latitude. And lastly the River *Jemma*, rising to the Northward of the Province of *Delly*, and running South 'till it arrives at *Agra*, and then Eastward 'till it falls into the *Ganges* in the Latitude of 27 Degrees North. This River is famous for watering the two capital Cities *Delly* and *Agra*.

The *Indians* are of a good Stature, well shaped, and of agreeable Features, but of a dark Complexion; those in the Southern Parts being as black as Jet, and even the most Northern ones of a deep tawney, having long black Hair and black Eyes. They are extreamly ingenuous, especially the Pagans, who will imitate at first sight any Patterns that are given them for Chints, Calicoes, &c. and are likewise a humane and moral People.

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The *Moors* or *Moguls*, who have the Government in their Hands, are of the *Mahometan* Religion, as professed by the *Turks*, and like them look upon the *Persians* as Hereticks.

There are three other different Religions professed by the Inhabitants of this Empire : The Original Inhabitants of *India*, who are by far the most numerous, are Idolaters, divided into a Multitude of Tribes, who will neither eat, drink or intermarry with any out of their own Tribe, tho' they disagree little or nothing in their idolatrous Worship. The chief of these Tribes are the *Bramins* or *Brachmans*, the *Banians* and the *Rabb-boots*; the *Bramins* having entirely engrossed the Priesthood, as well as all Learning and high Ranks to themselves.

The next Religion is that of the *Persies*, Worshippers of *Fire*, who are derived from the ancient *Persians*, and are a Species of Idolaters very different from the former.

The third Religion is the Christian, which is supposed to have been planted here ever since the Apostles time by St. *Thomas*, who is said to have been martyred near *Meliapour* on the Coast of *Cormandel*.



### A Genealogy of the Great-Moguls from Tamerlane the Great to the present time.

THE Empire of *Mogul* is but of a modern Date, being founded by *Tamerlane* in the Year 1400, but has been extending its Territories ever since, insomuch that it is now one of the largest in *Asia*. There is very little of the vast Extent of Country we have been describing under the Title of *India-Proper*, but what is now immediately subject to the *Great-Mogul*.

*Tamerlane the Great* was not of mean Extraction, as some pretend, but of the Race of *Shab-Guis Cham*, King of *Tartary*. He was born at *Samarcant*, a Country of *Zagatay*, or the *Usbek-Tartars*, where he was

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was afterwards buried. The Exploits of this great General far surpass those of all the Heroes of Antiquity; for after being raised from the Quality of Subject to that of Prince, he carried his Arms with astonishing Rapidity through all *Asia*, united all the *Mahometan Tartars* under his Empire, conquer'd the *Indies*, subdued *Perſia*, vanquished the *Tarks*, penetrated as far as the Straits of *Dardanelles*, ravaged *Egypt*, overthrew all the Princes who durst oppose him, and only wanted *China*, with some neighbouring Provinces, to have the whole Dominion of *Asia* united under him, towards which he was actually on the March at the Head of a vast Army, when Death intercepted him and put an end to his Conquests.

The Defeat of *Bajazet* the First, Son of Sultan *Amurat* the First, was the most famous of his Victories, as that Prince had acquired the Reputation of being the greatest Warriour of his Age, upon account of the many Advantages he had at different times gained over the Christians: That Battle was fought near the Town of *Simisa* in *Natolia* on Friday July 28, 1402. *Bajazet* is said by the Historians to have afterwards dashed his Brains out against the Bars of an Iron Cage, in which the Conqueror had inclosed him.

*Tamerlane* was very ill-favoured as to his Person, as are most of the *Tartars*, having likewise one Leg shorter than the other, from whence he had the Name of *Timur-lang*, that is *Timur the Lame*, changed since by Corruption into *Tamerlane*. A sharp Saying of his to *Bajazet* his Prisoner, with regard to this Infirmitiy, is worthy of Notice. *Bajazet* being brought before him one Day, *Tamerlane*, after looking stedfastly at him, burst out a laughing; *Bajazet* reproached him for this Usage, telling him, *That it was God who bestowed Kingdoms and Empires, and that what had befallen him that Day might happen to the other the next*: to which *Tamerlane* calmly replied, *I know very well, Bajazet, that 'tis God who bestows Kingdoms and Empires, but considering your Countenance, I find that these KINGDOMS AND EMPIRES ARE VERY INCONSIDERABLE THINGS WITH GOD,, SINCE HE BESTOWS THEM ON SUCH UGLY FELLOWS AS WE ARE; You a squinting Clown, and I a lame Wretch.* *Tamerlane* was a great Patron of learned Men, and a Lover of the Sciences.

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Sciences. He was sober, modest, and wise, tho' reported by some to be a great Dissembler; but above all he shined in the Province of War, of which his grand Actions will be everlasting Monuments. He professed the *Mahometan* Religion, as did most of the *Tartars* in his Time.

After the Death of *Tamerlane* his vast Empire, which grew up as suddenly as a Mushroom, disappeared almost as soon; his Descendants shortly after his Death losing all that he had conquered, except the Indies which they now possess.

*Tamerlane*, upon the Division of his vast Dominions amongst his Sons at his Death, assigned his new Conquests in *Indostan* to his third Son *Miracha*, who, after an indolent Reign of forty six Years, died in the Year 1451, and was succeeded by his Son *Mahomed*, whose Successor was his Son *Absuid Mirza*.

*Absuid Mirza*, after an unfortunate Reign of twenty eight Years, was killed by the *Perians*, and left his Dominions to his Son *Sec Omor*, who was a peaceable Prince, and resided entirely at *Samarcand*. He is said to have been killed by a Fall from his Terrass in 1495, having reigned twenty four Years, being succeeded in the Empire by his Son *Babar*. This Monarch being expelled *Sarmarcand* retreated into *India*, and afterwards made a Conquest of the Kingdom of *Patana*, fixing then upon *Delly* for the Seat of the Empire. *Babar* died in Peace in the Year 1530, having reigned about thirty Years in *India*, and was the first *Mogul* who became so very powerful. He left his Dominions to his Son *Homagion*, who conquered the best and wealthiest Kingdoms in *India*. He was killed by a Fall from a Scaffolding, whilst he was giving some Directions about a magnificent Tomb he was erecting for himself. This Tomb was finished by his Successor in a very pompous manner, and *Homagion's* Corps reposed in it, and is one of the Curiosities which Travellers visit when they go that Way.

*Homagion* died in the Year 1552, when his Son *Geladin*, commonly called *Acbar*, ascended the Throne, who bears a very high Character in History.

Having first taken all prudent Measures to render his Government secure at Home, he began to think of extending

tending his Dominions towards the Sea-Coast, that he might come in for a Share of the Trade and Riches that the Maritime Towns were in Possession of; and the first Attempt of this Nature which he made was upon the Kingdom of *Guzarate*, which reaches from the River *Tapte*, on which the Town of *Surat* stands, to the Mouth of the *Indus*. This Principality he made a Conquest of with great Ease, for overthrowing the Prince of the Country in Battle, and taking his Sons Prisoners, the whole Kingdom immediately submitted to his Power, except those Towns the *Portuguese* were possessed of, which being fortified after the *European* manner, bid Defiance to his Forces.

After the Conquest of *Guzarate* this Prince bent his Arms to *Decan*, which he soon made himself Master of, as likewise of several other small Sovereignities. He built several grand Palaces, and among other great Works planted the Road from *Agra* to *Lahor*, making it one continued Walk of shady Trees from one City to the other, being near five hundred Miles in Length.

This Prince was killed by some poisonous Drugs he had taken by mistake.

*Cha Selim* his Son succeeded to the Throne in the Year 1605, who removed the Imperial Seat from *Agra* to *Lahor*, and took upon himself the Name of *Jehan Guire*, or Governor of the World. This Prince was famous for nothing but indulging in all kinds of Luxury and Excess, and for his Amour with the celebrated *Nourmabal*. He died on the Road between *Cachimere* and *Lahor* in the Year 1627, leaving behind him four Sons, who for some time contested the Sovereignty with each other; but *Kurom*, the second Son, getting the better of the rest, ascended his Father's Throne, and took upon him the Title of *Cha Jehan*, or Governor of the World; in the beginning of his Reign he was excessively voluptuous and profuse, but as he grew old became the greatest Miser that ever sat on a Throne!

This Emperor had four Sons, *Dara* or *Darius* his eldest, *Sujah* the second, *Aurengzebe* the third, and *Murat* the youngest. He designed his eldest Son *Dara* for his Successor, whom he educated accordingly, and out of his great Fondness for him vested him with almost Sov-

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Sovereign Authority. As this young Prince was a great Enemy to the insincerity and fawning Behaviour of a Court, he treated the Raja's and other great Ministers with too much Bluntness and Severity, which created him many Enemies, and gave room to his other Brothers to advance their Interests in their respective Provinces.

*Aurengzebe*, indeed, the youngest Son, seemed so mortified a Prince, and so entirely devoted to Religion, as to look down with Contempt on all secular Grandeur. The Emperor *Chah Jahan*, being taken dangerously ill, it was reported that he was dead, whereupon his Sons immediately took up Arms to contend for their Father's Kingdom. *Aurengzebe* drew in his Brother *Murat* to join Forces with him, not under pretence of having any Thoughts of the Kingdom for himself, as being a professed *Faqir* or religious Recluse, but only in Opposition to his eldest Brother *Dara*, whom he said he thought unworthy to reign as being an Idolater, as he likewise did his other Brother *Sujah* as a Heretick, and an Enemy to his Fore-fathers Religion, and therefore pretended that *Murat* alone was deserving of the Throne. *Dara* the mean time attended his Father till he recovered from his Illness, and then went at the Head of his Forces to meet his united Brothers, by whom he was defeated in two desperate Battles, and obliged to Flight for his Life, but durst not return to his Father, who had said to him upon taking Leave, *Be sure, Dara, never to come into my Sight again unless victorious.*

After this Victory *Aurengzebe* and *Murat* came up to *Agra*, where the old Emperor was, whom they fraudulently got into their Power, and shut him close up in Prison. Soon after this the crafty Hypocrite *Aurengzebe*, by another Stratagem got his Rival Brother *Murat* likewise secur'd and closely imprison'd. He then pursued his Brother *Dara*, who had by this time got together a considerable Body of Forces, came up with him about eight Days Journey from *Agra*, gave him Battle, and routed his Army with a dreadful Slaughter. *Dara* himself was once more forced to fly for his Life, but was a few days afterwards betrayed into the Conqueror's Hands, by whose cruel Order he was put to Death, as was

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was his Brother *Morat* about the same time, whom, as was said before, *Aurengzebe* had imprisoned.

There was now none left to oppose *Aurengzebe* but his Brother *Sujah*, who, tho' he held out some time in Bengal, yet was at last forc'd to submit to his Brother's Power and good Fortune, and to fly to some distant Country for Shelter, but where was never certainly known. It was pretended, indeed, that he was seen in Persia, and several other Places, which gave *Aurengzebe* occasion to say one Day in jest, that *Sujah* was turned Pilgrim.

This unnatural War being thus at an end, after it had lasted among the four Brothers, through the Ambition of Rule, from the Year 1655 till 1660, *Aurengzebe* remained peaceable Possessor of that vast Empire, and caused himself to be declared King, notwithstanding his Father was yet living, ascending the Royal Throne erected by *Tamerlane*, on the 20<sup>th</sup> of October 1660, and receiving the Homage of all the Grandees.

*Cha Jeban* died in the Fort of *Agra* about the end of the Year 1666, at which *Aurengzebe* affected to shew great Sorrow and Contrition. By such Bloodshed, Fraud and enormous Practices, did *Aurengzebe* obtain the Throne of *Indostan*; when, some time after, reflecting on the Methods he had practised for the compassing his Ends, he voluntarily imposed on himself a rigorous Abstinence, upon which he ceased to be bloody as before, and became mild and merciful to an excess.

*Aurengzebe*, besides his Son *Mahomet*, who died a natural Death in the Royal Prison of *Guallior*, into which he had been thrown by his Father for a Conspiracy against him, had four other Sons, viz. *Cha Allem*, *Azem Dara*, *Acbar* and *Kam Bages*, the three former of whom were engaged in several Rebellions, and frequent Conspiracies against their Father's Life, and though the youngest did not break out into an actual Rebellion, yet he discovered a Disposition as ambitious as the rest, so that *Aurengzebe* thought proper to remain at the Head of his Army, though there was no Enemy able to appear in the Field against him, that he might be in a Condition to defeat the Attempts of his Children.

This Prince, after a long and bloody War, having conquered the Kingdoms of *Vijapour* and *Golconda*, brought

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brought their Kings Prisoners to his Camp, and made their Dominions Provinces of the Empire. He now reigned sole Monarch of *India*, from *Tartary* to *Cape Comorin*, except that there were some Rajas or petty Sovereigns in the mountainous inaccessible Parts of the Country, who never submitted to the *Mogul's* Power; the principal Reason of which is that nothing was to be got by reducing them.

The Great *Aurengzebe* died on the 4th of *March*, declaring his eldest Son *Cha Alem* his Successor; who, after defeating his Brothers in several Battles upon their contesting the Sovereignty with him, established himself in the quiet Possession of the Empire.

*Badour Cha*, or *Cha Alem*, reigned in a luxurious indolent manner for about ten Years, leaving his Crown to his Son *Jehaan-Cha*.

*Jehaan-Cha* dying in a few Years, and leaving four Sons, three of whom filled the Throne for a short Space of Time according to Seniority, viz. *Cha Alem*, *Jehaan*, and *Reffi Ulkedder*, it came at last to the youngest Brother *Mamet-Cha*, who through the Favour of the *Persian* Monarch *Nadir-Cha*, by whom his Dominions were conquered, and himself made Prisoner, reigns present Sovereign of the *Indostan* Empire. For a particular Account of this surprising Transaction, I recommend the Reader to the ensuing piece of History.

*The End of the Introduction.*





THE  
H I S T O R Y  
O F  
*N A D I R - C H A,*  
FORMERLY CALL'D  
THAMAS KOULI-KAN.

**N**ADIR-CHA, formerly *Thamas Kouli-Kan*, present  $\ddagger$  *SHAH* of *Persia*, is but of a mean Extraction, his Father being a \* Shepherd, to whose Occupation the Son was at first brought up, but his active Genius soon spurning at so peaceable

an

$\ddagger$  *SHAH* in the *Perſian* Language signifies *King*, and is the Title given to all their Monarchs, and not *SOPHI*, as is vulgarly thought, which is a Corruption of *SEFI*, a Name peculiar to the late Royal Family; *Ismael*, who was the first King of that House, being called *SEFI*.

\* Tho' the Father of this extraordinary Person might be only a Shepherd, yet it is certain he has noble Blood in his Veins, as appears from one of his own Letters to his Son here-

B

after

an Employment, he put himself at the head of a Company of Resolute Fellows, and launched into the Business of a † Freebooter; in which, by several bold Enterprizes, he in a short time became both famous and wealthy.

After having pursued this Profession for seven Years successively, and his Company having increased to the Number of seven thousand, he begun to form Projects of a higher nature, and accordingly marched with those under his Command into the Persian Province of *Mazanderan*, situated on the *Caspian Sea*, whither *Shah Hussein*, the then Persian Emperor, had sent his Son *Thamas* for safety, when the rebellious ‡ *Agwans* had over-run the Kingdom.

Upon the Death of *Shah Hussein*, who had been dethroned by the Rebels, \* *Nadir Kouli*, for that was his original Name, presented himself and his Band of Followers before Prince *Thamas*, making a Tender to him both of his Service and Treasures,

after inserted, wherein he declares himself one of the chief of the Illustrious Blood of *Turkamen*, as, he says, the *Great Mogul* was likewise, and that they were both descended from the same Tribe. But it is proper here to observe, that those who are styled Shepherds in the Eastern Countries are many of them Men of good Families, and great Possessions, with numerous Flocks and Herds, and a Multitude of Slaves and Servants under them; such were *Abraham* and *Lot* of old, and even *David* himself before he ascended the Throne.

† A Freebooter is a Captain of *Banditti* or Thieves, whose principal Employment is robbing the Caravans. The Caravans are a large Body of Merchants, Strangers, Pilgrims, &c. who travel in company together in these Countries for the greater Security.

‡ This Rebellion was begun by *Mereweys*, on whose Death it was carried on by his Son, and after him by *Esfif*.

\* *Nadir Kouli* signifies Excellent Slave.

and

and offering at the same time, upon Forfeiture of his Head, to place him on the Throne of *Per-*  
*cia*, provided the Prince would promise him, in case of Success, to make him his Prime-Minister. This Offer was readily accepted, and the Terms agreed to by the young Prince. It was then our General first took upon him the Name of *Thamas Kouli-Kan* †, as a Token of his Engagements to that Prince.

Upon this Union a formidable Army was soon assembled, whereof *Kouli-Kan* had the sole Command, and with which he put the Rebels of *Mashad* to flight, bringing the Governor's Head back with him to *Thamas* as a Trophy. After several other successful Expeditions against the Usurper *Ezref*, the then Chief of the *Agwans*, he marched with *Thamas* to *Ispahan*, the Capital of *Peria*, which he laid Siege to, and soon became Master of. Then it was he performed his Promise to *Thamas* by placing him upon the Throne of his Ancestors, having entirely subdued and expelled the rebellious \* *Agwans*, and put their Chief the Usurper *Ezref* to Death.

The *Persian* Monarchy being afterwards involved in a War with the *Ottoman* Empire, and *Kouli-Kan* having the Command in Chief of its Forces, he by his Conduct and Courage greatly retrieved the Affairs of the Kingdom from the ruinous Condition they had been brought to in the former reigns; for, after a Series of considerable Victories, he obliged the *Porte* to retrench her Encroachments, and accept of a very disadvantageous Peace.

† *Thamas Kouli-Kan* signifies Slave to *Thamas*.

\* This happened in the Year 1729, after the Rebels had been in the Possession of the Throne of *Peria* upwards of seven Years.

4      *The History of Nadir-Cha,*

Kouli-Kan having by this means greatly ingratiated himself with the whole Kingdom, and more particularly with the Army, he by degrees undermined the Power of *Thamas*, tying up his Hands in whatever related to the Government, and some time after publickly deposing him, under Pretence of his being incapable of managing the Scepter. It is likewise affirmed that he afterwards caused that Prince, together with the whole Royal Family of *Perſia*, and a great Number of the Nobility of the first Rank, whom he suspected, to be put to Death. He then changed his Name of *Thamas Kouli-Kan*, as but ill agreeing with the said Behaviour, for that of *Nadir-Cha* \*, and gave his Coin the following Inscription — *The King without Equal, the Lord of the Four Parts of the World.*

He enjoys a strong Constitution of Body, is somewhat addicted to Women and Wine; is indefatigable, and inured to Hardships; has an uncommon Presence of Mind, and a majestic Countenance. He is an accomplished Politician, of quick Discernment, and great Magnanimity. He keeps up a strict Discipline in the Army, punishes Vice very severely, is a constant Adherer to Justice, and a professed Enemy to Hypocrisy and Treachery: As an Instance of this last Particular in his Character, it is related of him, That being wounded in the Back by one of his Guards as he was at the Storming of a Town, he took his own Turband, bound up the Wound as well as he could, and continued the Attack; but after he had got Possession of the Place he had his Wound dressed, and ordered a strict Search to be made after the Villain who gave it him, whom being by no means able to discover, he caused his whole Troop of Life-

\* *Nadir-Cha* signifies something strange.

Guards,

Guards, consisting of six hundred Men, to be put to Death, that he might be secure the Traitor did not escape unpunished.

*Nadir-Cha* being now fixed on the *Persian Throne*, after having filled the highest Posts both in the State and Army, he could not rest 'till he had revenged himself on the *Agwans*, those eternal Enemies of the Kingdom, to which end he pursued them into the very midst of their Country, the Province of *Candabar*, which has a strong City of that Name, situated on the Border of the River *Ilment* or *Hindmend*.

The Governor of these States, judging it imprudent to risk an open Battle with the well-disciplin'd Army of the *Persians*, resolved to defend himself to the utmost in his Capital, which he caused to be provided with every thing necessary for that Purpose. *Nadir-Cha* having brought all the Country round the City under his Subjection, at length laid Siege to the Town itself, and having battered it with his Cannon, and made many Attacks in several Places for a whole Year together, he at last took it by Storm. The unfortunate Governor being taken Prisoner was sent to *Ispahan*, under a Guard of fifteen hundred Horsemen, the Conqueror ordering the Castle of this Town to be demolished, and a new Fort to be erected in the Country of *Vaderabaach*, to which he gave the Name of *Candabar*.

The Success of this Expedition was highly grateful to our Royal Hero, as appears from a Letter sent by him to *Hattembeecq*, Governor of *Ispahan*, the Contents whereof he ordered him to divulge throughout his Dominions. This Letter contains a particular Detail of those Conquests, and gives us a Specimen of the Magnanimity of this Mo-

narch ; it was written in the *Persian* Language, and  
is as follows.



‘ In the Name of the Great God,  
‘ whom I fear,

‘ **I**T is hereby commanded that *Hatembeecq*, Go-  
‘ vernor of *Ispahan*, safely rely himself on the  
‘ King’s Favour, and know, That from the very  
‘ Day this famous Kingdom was bestowed on Me,  
‘ I have by the Blessing of God found myself so  
‘ much supported, and my Arm so strengthened  
‘ by the Power of the Most High, that all Castles  
‘ and Forts, agreeable to his eternal Decree, have  
‘ been as nought with me ; the Mountains have  
‘ looked, and been made as Chaff by me, and the  
‘ Sea as a Valley wheresoever my Royal Eyes  
‘ have been turned.

‘ Agreeable to the high and Divine Command  
‘ laid down in the *Alcoran*, I entreated and ad-  
‘ vised the Inhabitants of *Candahar*, during the  
‘ Year’s Siege of that Place, to desist from their  
‘ evil Ways, and pernicious Rebellions, and to sub-  
‘ ject themselves to my Power ; but they raised  
‘ their Heads with screaming and a hideous Noise,  
‘ like a Troop of black Ravens, and according to  
‘ their natural Corruptness, Pertinacy and bad  
‘ Courses, trusting to the Strength of their Castles  
‘ and Bulwarks, and the great Multitude of their  
‘ Forces, rejected my Counsels with Derision, and  
‘ manifested that they were so far from hearkening  
‘ to my wholsome Entreaties and Admonitions, of-  
‘ fered according to the Divine Command, that  
‘ they

they were more and more hardened in their  
 Wickedness : I at length therefore turned my  
 Thoughts on the Demolition of their Strength,  
 and accordingly summoned my Troops together,  
 and gave Command to begin the Storm at the  
 Point called *Sangie*, and the other Bulwarks on  
 the Mountains near the Point *Deda* ; after taking  
 the Point *Sangie*, I planted my Cannon and Mor-  
 tars thereon, wherewith I play'd upon the Rebels  
 as with a continual Thunder and Lightning,  
 without any Intermission, for the space of fifteen  
 Days, or until the third of the Month *Sjeheja*  
*Tulbaroem* \*, when I ordered my whole Army to  
 attack the Castle by Storm, and to plant my Ar-  
 tillery fronting, and to play upon the Point *De-  
 da* therewith ; I committed the Attack of that Side  
 to the Inhabitants of *Bagtiar*, who, supported  
 by the strong Arm of God, manfully, and with  
 the Courage of Lions, sallied forth towards and  
 attacked the said Fort, and took the strong  
 Point *Deda* sooner than any of my Forces, who  
 were of other Countries, could do. Since these  
 Tidings cannot but give great Joy, Gladness and  
 Satisfaction to those that are well-affected to this  
 Kingdom, who have ever looked for and longed  
 to hear this News, therefore have I dispatched  
*Mame-Daliebeecq*, Bearer of this *Mafalis* †, as Mes-  
 senger of the over-joyful News : And whereas  
 it is an ancient Custom in all Countries and Ci-  
 ties to give Bread-Money to the Messenger upon  
 the Receipt of an agreeable Piece of Intelli-  
 gence ; yet considering that my faithful Subjects  
 have for these three Years past assisted me with  
 all their Strength and Power in the furnishing me

\* The 12th of March 1738.

† Signifying --- which is like unto Paradise.

with Money, and have never left me distressed,  
 but always supported me in contributing such extraordinary Supplies, according to their Abilities, whereby they have long since paid me the Reward of Messengers, therefore I do hereby remit it to them, and am desirous that both Great and Small may hear this glad News, and that this Regam \* be read to them, and that likewise to the Bearer of it be given of my own Money twelve Thomans in ready Specie, and a Suit of Honour, without the Inhabitants contributing any thing towards it. These my Orders must be sent to *Avisa, Cougiloen, and all other Places situated near Ispahan*, that the Inhabitants of those Countries may partake of these joyful Tidings, and thereby have their Hopes augmented. This Regam must be held in Value and Veneration. Written the 4th of the Month *Sjeheja Tulbaroem*, the Year 1150.

In the Margent was the following Order.

WHEREAS the Illuminations only tend to the Ruin and Damage of my poor Subjects, I command that there shall be none made, and do discharge them upon that Head. My Will is that only the Trumpets be sounded, and the Drums beat in the Royal Manner.

It is uncertain whether *Nadir-Cha*, when he first set out upon his Expedition against the *Agwans*, resolved, after he should have subdued them, to invade the Monarchy of *Indostan*; or whether he formed that Project after the Conquest of *Candahar*, by finding himself on the Frontiers of the *Mogul's Country*, by being likewise sollicited

\* Mandate.

there-

thereunto by Letters from several male-contented Omrahs or Princes of that Empire, or, by an Inclination to revenge the Wrongs which the Kings of *Mogul* had committed in the *Persian* Kingdom, or lastly, by a Resolution of supporting the Pretensions which the *Persian* Crown made upon that of *Indostan*, whereof more will be said hereafter. Be that as it will, he was now determined to march his victorious Army into the Empire of the *Mogul*, A Monarchy which for a long Series of Years had not heard the Clash of Foreign Arms, by Reason of which the Inhabitants were fallen into a general Luxury and Effeminacy, and the Military Art become entirely neglected and despised by them.

This powerful and great Kingdom was now govern'd by the Emperor *Mamet-Cha*, descended from the illustrious *Tamerlane*, the first Founder of the *Mogul's* Empire; being the sixteenth Prince that had ascended the Throne since that celebrated Conqueror. His Father was King *Jehaan-Cha*, Son of *Cha-Alem* or *Badur-Cha*, whose Father was the famous *Aurengzebe*. *Mamet-Cha* ascended the Throne in his Infancy; upon the Decease of his Predecessor King *Reffi-Ulkedder*: The Women in the Seraglio, among whom he was brought up, had greatly debauched his Youth, and made him effeminate and slothful: He was nevertheless Master of many Virtues, and his good Nature carried him so far, that he condemned even the Guilty with Reluctance. He was no great Proficient in Politicks, being one of too weak a Mind to manage the Reins of so vast a Monarchy; accordingly every Thing ran into Confusion, and the several Princes of the Empire acted tyrannically, and without the least Controul: The Rebels likewise from hence

hence became exceeding audacious, insomuch that one *Bazir-Auwd*, at the Head of a Band out of the South Countries, committed frequent Robberies at the very Gates of *Delly*, whilst this mistaken Prince, instead of quelling these Seditions by the Sword, as his Predecessors were wont to do, presented the Authors of them, by way of Compromise for present Quiet, with Vestments of Honour, which only served to make them still more insolent.

But to return to *Nadir-Cha*, this Prince considering what great Inconveniences his Troops must necessarily undergo, if he should attempt leading them into the Empire of *Indostan*, over the desolate and almost inaccessible Mountains, known to us by the Name of the *Soliman Mountains*, which part the Empires of *Persia* and *Mogul*, thought of all Means to come if possible through an easier Rout into the said Kingdom; for this Purpose he consulted the *Pathans* Inhabitants of those Mountains: These People, whom he brought over to his Interest by generous Presents, immediately engaged to bring his Army into *Cabul*, which is the first Province in *India* on the side of *Persia*, through an unknown and easy Passage.

This Country being the Western Boundary of the *Great Mogul's Dominions*, and bordering upon the *Persian* Province of *Candahar*, has a City of moderate Strength, called *Cabul*. The Province was now governed by *Nasir-Chan*, appointed *Souba* or Vice-Roy by his Majesty of *Indostan*, who seeing the Danger which threatened him on the Side of *Candahar*, began to put himself in a Posture of Defence, giving notice at the same Time to his Sovereign *Mamet-Cha*, that the Province of which he had the Government was upon the Point of being invaded by the *Persian* Arms, and that he

he should not be in a Condition either to repel the Enemy, or defend his own District, unless he was immediately furnished with a strong Supply. As soon as the Great *Mogul* had this Information, he caused a large Sum of Money to be remitted to the Vice-Roy, in order for the levying of a formidable Army, to put a Stop to the further Progress of the invading *Persian*.

The Souba, being now provided with the necessary Fund, assembled a numerous Army with the utmost Expedition, and not conceiving but that *Nadir-Cha* would take his March over the Mountains, he beset all the Avenues from them into his Province; but the *Persian* Monarch having, as it has been observed, agreed with the *Pathans* to conduct him through a By-Passage into *Cabul*, entered the Country without Opposition, and surprised *Nasir-Chan* in his Camp, who trusting he had secured each Pass from *Persia* to his Province, spent his Time there in Feasting and Jollity. Hereupon *Nadir-Cha* immediately attacked him, routed his Army with a great Slaughter, and took a vast Number Prisoners, amongst whom was *Nasir-Chan* himself, who being brought before the Conqueror was generously set at Liberty, and treated as a Friend by him. The Particulars of this Conquest may be more fully seen in the following Letter, written by the *Persian* Monarch to his Son *Nassur-Ulla Mirza*, who was appointed Vice-Roy of the Empire during his Father's Absence.

‘ In the Name of the Great and Gracious God,

‘ COMMAND is hereby given that the whole World shall pay Obedience to my dear and beloved Son his Excellency *Nassur-Ulla Mirza*, who may fully assure himself of my Royal Grace and Favour; and be it known, That with a firm Trust in Almighty God, who is my Support and Strength, and on whom I rely, I did on *Tuesday* the 12th in the Morning arise from my Resting Place at *Aly-Bakha*, two Miles from the *Illael-Abat*, and arrived in the Afternoon with the greatest Part of the Army in *Bariek-Alb*, from whence I took some Troops with me, and marched with them two Days and Nights, and two Hours of the third Day, even as *Sjappaers*\*, at which Time we arrived at *Him-roed*, being three Miles on this Side of *Biesza-phoeer*; here I learned that *Nasir-Chan*, with all his Chief Generals and other Officers, diverted themselves in their Tents with Feasting and Riot, whereupon I immediately attacked them in the most sudden Manner, and when they least expected it, by which Surprize many were cut off on the Spot with our Swords, and a great Number taken Prisoners, whilst their Baggage, Horses, &c. were given as a Booty to the Soldiers: The Number of Prisoners was about 8 or 9000, amongst whom was their General

\* The Name of the Messengers who carry Expresses, denoting the Swiftness of his March.

‘ *Nasir*

• Nasir-Chan, and many other Nobles, the remaining Part of their Army being all put to the Sword, excepting 3 or 400, who saved themselves by flying to the Mountains. The further Particulars of what has happened in this Battle shall be delivered to you by word of Mouth by the Sjappaers, Mhamed Ibrahim-Beecq and Zeffij Cham-beecq, † Miembasjes. Your Excellency must on the Receipt of this Mandate, immediately order the Drums to be beat, and the Trumpets to sound, as likewise all possible Demonstrations of Joy to be shewn, and likewise give Notice to all the higher and lower Officers, that every one may join with Me, in Thanking and Glorifying the Great and Almighty God for the Favour of this Glorious Victory.

• A true Copy of this Royal Mandate must, after being read, be sent to his Highness Dien Kouli Beecq, Chief Ensign-Bearer to the Army at Illael-Abat to be perused by him, who must dispatch it to Cabul, to his Highness Inwen Werdii-Chan, and he must transmit it to his Highness Asroff Sulthen, Governor of Elmen, Caldat, and Chasmeyn, who must take Care that the same be speedily handed to my dear and well-beloved Son Nassur-Ulla Mirza, Vice-Roy of the Persian Kingdom, to the End that he may likewise be acquainted with this my Victory; and These must all punctually keep to the Contents of this Mandate;—What is ordered must be executed and revered.

• Written the 14th of the Month Sjaben Ub Mafam, in the Year 1151 †

† Captains over Thousands.

‡ November 28, 1738.

Our Royal General being elevated by the Conquest of the whole Province of *Cabul*, and placing great Confidence in his Troops, wrote a Letter to *Mamet-Cha* the Great Mogul, wherein he acquainted him of his coming, and the Reasons which induced him thereto ; and altho' no Copy could be had of that Letter, yet by creditable Informations the Substance was as Follows :

' THAT he was come down with a large Force  
 ' to bring under his Subjection those Countries  
 ' which, belonging to the Persian Crown by a Con-  
 ' vention made between the Kings *Shab Abaas*  
 ' and *Homagion*, were contrary to that Treaty taken  
 ' and kept in Possession by the Princes of the Mo-  
 ' guls : That he had already at a great Expence,  
 ' and the Loss of a vast Number of Men, con-  
 ' quered *Candahar* and *Cabul*, and all the Country  
 ' thereunto belonging ; that he desired *Mamet-Cha*  
 ' to retrench his Dominions to the *Serbind*, that  
 ' is, the River *Indus*, which was formerly the  
 ' Limits between the two Empires, threatening up-  
 ' on Failure of this that he would not only take  
 ' Possession of what lay westward of the said  
 ' Place, but would come up even unto *Delly* to  
 ' assist the King, (as all Crowned Heads are bound  
 ' to do one to another) in repairing the degenerate  
 ' State of his Empire, to reduce the undutiful  
 ' *Omrahs* and *Soubas*, who now acted in an arbi-  
 ' trary Manner, to their Duty, and likewise to check  
 ' the Licentiousness of the Southern Rebels, the  
 ' *Merbettas*, who had for a long Time created  
 ' great Disturbances in the Monarchy, and com-  
 ' mitted many Disorders ; whereas in former Times  
 ' they were punished, and cut off by the King's  
 ' Officers, whenever they made but the least shew  
 ' of Dis-affection.' With

With what Scorn this menacing Letter was received, and read by the Great Mogul, may be easily conceived, if we consider that Mamet-Che looked upon the Kingdom of Persia as given away by the Generosity of the Kings his Predecessors, and that consequently that it was become independent, and governed by its own Princes, merely by the Indulgence of those Sovereigns, and that he was so far from acknowledging Nadir-Che King of the said Empire, that he considered him as an Usurper of the Persian Crown, a perfidious Violator of his Duty, and as one who had requited the Royal Favours bestowed on him with a base and ungrateful Behaviour; and who, because of his low Birth, was unworthy to send Ambassadors or Letters to him. He however wrote the following Answer to this Letter, containing many arrogant Menaces, together with a Romantick Description of his Armaments, and of the Conquest which he proposed to gain with the Multitude of his Forces.



• Violator of the Favours of his own law-  
 • ful and terrestrial King and Master —  
 • Ungrateful and Unworthy — Expect  
 • the Wrath and Punishment of God, and  
 • the Vengeance of Royal Displeasure, and  
 • know,  
 • THAT the Ardaat\* of the Chief of the Impu-  
 • dent and Faithless is come to my Heaven-  
 • like Court, and brought to the Cognizance of my

\* Petition.

\* Ser-

‘ Servants, standing in my happy, awful, high,  
‘ and noble Presence. This Petition contains a  
‘ Detail of the Affairs of the *Persian Territories* ;  
‘ the Invasion and Destruction of the Country of  
‘ the *Turks* ; the Alliance with that Emperor ; the  
‘ cutting off of my Son *Abaas-Mirza*, and the  
‘ transferring of the Government to the Hands of  
‘ that Criminal and Violator of Favours ; his In-  
‘ tentions against *Candahar*, to besiege that Castle,  
‘ and to expel the Governor from thence ; his  
‘ praying of Assistance from the Servants of my  
‘ unto-the-heavens-exalted Court, that if the *Ag-*  
‘ *wans* could not withstand him, and should pray  
‘ for Refuge in my Countries, which protect the  
‘ World, that then the Vice-Roys of *Cabul* and  
‘ *Multan* shoud not allow them to approach  
‘ the Frontiers of *Indostan*, for if any Harm should  
‘ happen to this protected Land, (which God  
‘ forbid) while the Army of the *Kezel-Bassen*  
‘ pursued those Rebels, it must be imputed to  
‘ the Neglect and Carelessness of my Servants ;  
‘ concluding with Acknowledgments of pure Of-  
‘ ficiousness, and Assurances of Obedience and  
‘ Subjection, and referring himself to *Mamet*  
‘ *Islaanchan Astejelloe*.

‘ Be then not ignorant or insensible, That the  
‘ Almighty and Holy God in the Beginning of  
‘ the Creation, and coming forth of the World,  
‘ raised the Office of Prophet and King out of  
‘ pure Light : That the Prophets and Messengers  
‘ are those who have obtained the Election to his  
‘ Glorious and Holy Throne, according to these  
‘ holy Words : *Verily God has chosen Adam,*  
‘ *Noah, and the Children of Ommer, and glorified*  
‘ *them above all the Inhabitants of the World* ; and that  
‘ the Kings and Princes are those who have given  
‘ this

‘ this majestick Command, That the Kings are  
‘ God’s Shadow, and are therefore sent into all  
‘ the Parts of the Worlds, according to these gra-  
‘ cious Words: *I have appointed the Kings in the*  
‘ *World to govern and direct the Works of God.*

‘ And further,

‘ The Prophets have Command from God for  
‘ the governing of the Law and Faith.

‘ And to the Kings is graciously given the Pos-  
‘ session of the World from *Areb* unto *Ajem*.

‘ He has honoured the Governours of the  
‘ World with Royalty, and the Title of *God’s*  
‘ *Shadow.*

‘ Two Names are written upon the Seven Rings,  
‘ to wit, *King* and *Prophet*.

‘ For without a King the world is like a Body  
‘ without a Head.

‘ The Attempt of roving Birds to catch every  
‘ Fly, like the royal Hawk, and of the Owl to  
‘ follow the Bird of Paradise, without having  
‘ acquired some previous Knowledge is impru-  
‘ dent, neither is every Herb capable of bringing  
‘ forth royal Pearls, nor every Stone of producing  
‘ the glittering Saphire.

‘ It hath reached my Ears that the Violating  
‘ and Faithless has, by Deceit and Treachery,  
‘ arrested my Brother *Thamas Mirza*, and my Son  
‘ *Abas Mirza* in the Territories of *Mazanderan*;  
‘ and, assembling some infamous Strollers, has  
‘ caused his own Name to be put upon the *Persian*  
‘ *Coin*: As likwise that he has made an Agreement  
‘ with the Emperor of *Turkey*, thro’ the Assistance  
‘ of the Treacherous, and of-Favour-unworthy  
‘ *Ahmed Bassa*, who was appointed at *Bagdat*  
‘ by the said Emperor, and who was as perfidious a  
‘ Servant of his own Master as thou art, for that

‘ fearing to be spoiled, he has reverenced thy  
 ‘ Power for Self-preservation’s Sake; whereby  
 ‘ thou hast ruined and pillaged a Track of the  
 ‘ Turkish Dominions, and by thy Deceit and  
 ‘ Treachery hast made Peace, under pretence of  
 ‘ being ready to embrace the Faith of the Sun,  
 ‘ which has rendered thee so haughty that thou  
 ‘ art come hither with an Intention to conquer  
 ‘ *Candahar*, and hast proposed to thy self the most  
 ‘ absurd Enterprizes.

‘ Thou art not yet so far advanced as to be en-  
 ‘ titled to send Ambassadors, or write Letters to  
 ‘ the Type of Heaven, the Court of the power-  
 ‘ ful King, according to the Custom of Kings;  
 ‘ although *Alimerdaan-Chan*, and *Mamed-Aly-Chan*  
 ‘ have been sent twice in Embassy, from *Thamas*  
 ‘ *Mirza*, and *Abas Mirza*, to this my glorious  
 ‘ Court, and have been presented and entertained  
 ‘ with all such Favours and Honours as my Ge-  
 ‘ nerosity towards the whole World and its In-  
 ‘ habitants is accustomed to. In Expectation of  
 ‘ this thou art gone beside the Mark

‘ Hast thou not heard the Master’s Lesson?  
 ‘ Hast thou seen the World at thy Command?  
 ‘ Beware! that as long as thou hast not the  
 ‘ Worth in thy Possession, thou dost not take the  
 ‘ Seat of the Worthy.

‘ The Familiarity and Friendship between this  
 ‘ noble Family, and that of the venerable *Sefi’s*, is  
 ‘ too well known every where to require being  
 ‘ mentioned here; for his Majesty \**Timur-Lang*,

\* *Tamerlane* the Great, whose true Name was *Timur*, and because he had one Leg shorter than the other was called *Timur-Lang*, that is, *Timur the Lame*, which has been changed by Corruption into that of *Tamerlane*.

‘ Lord

Lord of the Ages, and Conqueror of Countries,  
had in the Beginning of his going forth, and  
of his Conquests, the Happiness to be saluted by  
Shah Sefi, the Forerunner of those united with  
God's Palace, the choicest among those skill'd in  
God's Mysteries, whose Remains are hallowed by  
the Great God ; and *Timur-Lang* gained many Vic-  
tories, and made many Conquests, by the holy and  
zealous Affection of this Lion of God, and with  
the Assistance of the wholsome Counsels of this  
Son of God's Prophet ; and after his taking of  
*Turkey, Egypt, Saam, Erak, Areb* and *Ajem*,  
he appearing a second Time at *Kezewien*,  
at the Command of Shah Sefi, erected that  
Magnificent Place, which is yet in Being in  
the Royal City of *Ispahan* in Memory of that  
Victorious Lord of the Ages. He then presented  
Shah Sefi with twelve thousand Slaves of vari-  
ous Nations, which were taken Prisoners and led  
in Bondage by him, and appropriated some *Persian*  
Villages to the Use of Academies ; the *Seyeds*  
and *Sjeeqs* of those Places are at this Time known  
in *Persia* to be *Kezel-Bassen* and *Golaam-Siah* :  
And indeed *Persia* is given away by me, and  
the *Kezel-Bassen* are Slaves of my eminent Fore-  
fathers, which must needs have appeared to that  
Ungrateful from the Chronicles. He must  
likewise have heard how, by Accidents, and  
the Destiny of Heaven, King *Homagion*, who  
has his Rest in Heaven, went to *Persia* in  
the Time of Shah *Thamas*, who has his Place  
in Paradise, because of the Familiarity formerly  
subsisting, and was there entertained with all  
possible Respect and Courtesy ; likewise that  
*Mamed-Akber*, by the ever Unsteadiness of the  
World, went thither in time of the (now blessed)

• King Aurengzebe, where he stayed a long Time,  
• they living together in perfect Friendship with-  
• out the least Variance, as Milk and Honey  
• mixed together, or as two Almond Kernels in  
• one Shell.

• But having been prevented until this Day,  
• by the Interposition of some Obstacles, (and by  
• reason of Nezamelmolluck Bhadur, the choicest  
• and chiefest of the Servants, and the best among the  
• Confidants of this powerful Court, having been  
• engaged in regulating some Affairs, and in re-  
• storing Peace in the Countries of *Deekhen*,  
• which were lately disturbed by cross Accidents  
• of the World, and the Treachery of violating  
• Rioters) to think of *Persia*; yet since, by the  
• Blessing of God, my Heart is now perfectly  
• satisfied concerning the Government of my Do-  
• minions, and since in this happy Time *Ne-*  
• *zamelmolluck* has had the Favour of kissing my  
• Feet, upon his receiving the Character of At-  
• torney General, which he had enjoyed a great  
• while, but is now renewed upon him, to add  
• more Lustre to that Quality; and since this Empire  
• has again greatly acquired its former flourishing  
• Condition; therefore, with the Blessing of the  
• only God, Punishment will be administred by  
• our first Order to that Ungrateful, who must at  
• last have a fatal End; in like manner as this  
• Wretch must have heard, to the great Disturb-  
• ance of his Mind, how, by Heaven's Blessings  
• and Favours, the abominable Rebels of *Deekhen*,  
• who dared to come in an arrogant manner into  
• the Territories of *Indostan* with three hundred thou-  
• sand Blood-thirsty Horse-Men, have by the Cou-  
• rage of the victorious Generals been easily defeated  
• and

and ground to Dust, whilst these faithful Heroes hereby gained as much Treasure as would equal the Revenues of seven Provinces.

I have then in my Authority and Glory provisionally stipulated, that three hundred thousand Horse-Men shall march towards *Persia*, under the Command of *Abdassemmed-Chan*, the eldest of the Natives of this courageous Court, and *Sikeria-Chan* with sixty thousand *Tartarian* Horse-Men, with the *Amriel Omrah Semfannidoula*, *Mijbagsi*; \* the Rajas, *Denraas Jeysing*, *Abbeysing*, *Rana*, *Tjetterfaal*, and *Neckba*, together with *Mamet-Chan-Benges*, *Syf Uddien Allican*, and all the Servants of this Court, with the Armies of *Indostan* and *Raaspooten*, to the Number of an hundred and forty thousand Horse-Men; likewise *Chodayaar-Chan*, *Fitte*, *Gazie-Chan*, *Belloots*, and other *Ziamedaars* from the circumjacent Places of *Multan* with an hundred thousand Horse-Men. These shall in the first place take the Castle of *Candahar*, which was deserted by *Hoffein*, one of the Vassals of this heavenly Court, and they shall administer to this despised and perfidious Wretch his deserved Punishment, either by taking him Prisoner, or slaying him on the Spot.

They shall after this march into *Persia*, release *Thamas-Mirza* from his Confinement, and replace him on the Royal Throne of *Persia*; they shall proceed to *Aan-Bagdat*, being the Frontier of *Turkey*, and demolish all the Forts which may prove an Obstruction to the glorious Empire of *Persia*: they shall entirely destroy all those that are Enemies to that noble Family, and abide in that Region 'till *Thamas-Mirza* direct

\* General Muster Master.

‘ to the contrary. Thus shall they, aided by God’s  
 ‘ Blessings, re-establish the Kingdom of *Persia* in  
 ‘ its former Glory ; and having brought every one  
 ‘ under Subjection and due Respect to that coura-  
 ‘ gious King, they shall return to do Homage to  
 ‘ this Court, deliver the Castle of *Candahar* to  
 ‘ whom the King shall appoint, and leave twenty-  
 ‘ five thousand Horsemen in the Places adjacent,  
 ‘ to remain there for the space of twelve Years ;  
 ‘ that on any Occasion, by Order from there or  
 ‘ here, they may march to the Assistance of that  
 ‘ Kingdom.

‘ If then, leaving thy Presumption, thou con-  
 ‘ siderest thy Safety and Welfare, and turnest thy  
 ‘ self to Repentance and Amendment before thou  
 ‘ art punished according to thy Deserts, for which  
 ‘ Purpose this mighty Army is appointed, perhaps  
 ‘ the Servants of my Court, agreeable to the high  
 ‘ and mighty Firmaans, as likewise *Thamas-Mirza*,  
 ‘ may blot out the Records of thine Offences with  
 ‘ the Pen of Grace ; if not, look to thy self, and  
 ‘ none else.

‘ Where hast thou seen fighting Heroes ?  
 ‘ Thou hast fought against *Turks* and *Georgians*,  
 ‘ I shall send Armies like unto Seas.  
 ‘ Thou nor thy Host shall not be able to with-  
 ‘ stand.’

The *Persian* King, mean while, met with an Obstacle in his Rout, the Gates of *Pesawor* or *Py-shore* being shut against him ; at which being highly enraged he ordered the Place to be instantly stormed, and after taking it up to be plundered by the Soldiers, and then continuing his March, and sending one of his Sons, with a numerous Detachment before him, to secure the

Passage

Passage over the River *Attok*, a Branch of the *Indus*, which heretofore parted the Empires of *Persia* and *Indostan*, he led his Army over it without the least Obstruction.

The News of the Success of the *Perians*, and of their having passed the River *Indus*, reaching the *Great Mogul*, caused his Pride in some measure to abate. He now forgot the presumptuous Threatnings in his Letter to *Nadir-Cha*, and all his Courage vanished at once, so that not thinking himself safe in *Delly*, he resolved to fly to the lower Countries of his Dominions, and to deliver the Empire up to the Conqueror. For this Purpose he enquired of one of the Surveyors of his Vessels, in how many Days one might reach *Benaris* or *Patna* by Water, but the Omrah's *Nezamelmolluck*, who bore the Title of Chancellor of the Chancery, and *Cammarudien-Chan*, having got a Hint of this pusillanimous Intention, and being desirous to prevent it, endeavoured by all means possible to keep up his Courage. They represented to him that the *Perian* Army consisted only of a handful of Men, and that by taking the Field against them he might infallibly gain a compleat Victory. Although this encouraged him a little, they were not able to bring him entirely into their way of thinking; however he ordered that they should march with a formidable Army well-provided to support the Souba of *Labor* against the Enemy, and endeavour to oblige them to withdraw out of the Kingdom; accordingly these Omrahs set out immediately on their March towards that Province, at the Head of a large Body of Forces.

*Sikkeria-Chan* the Souba of that Province, a magnanimous Soldier, foreseeing but too plainly that the triumphant *Nadir-Cha*, after having passed the

*Indus*, and set up his Standard in *Attok*, which was likewise under his Government, would in a little time attack him in *Labor*, to pave himself a Road by the Conquest of that Province to the Metropolis *Delly*, gave Notice to the *Mogul* that the *Persians* had passed the said River, had made Alliance with the neighbouring Heathenish Rajas, and were now ready to invade his Dominions; at the same time urging the Necessity of his being succoured by a strong Reinforcement.

The Receipt of this Letter was soon followed by a far more disagreeable Piece of News, which was, that one *Amierbeek-Chan*, a Commander in the *Persian* Army, had with a valiant Detachment marched to *Emanabaad* on the Frontiers of *Labor*, and in one Night surprized and defeated *Chalinder-Chan*, who was there with a Body of ten thousand Men to keep that Post, and had taken the Place Sword in Hand; as likewise that the abovenamed Governor, *Sikkeria-Chan*, who had taken the Field with an Army of twenty thousand to meet and engage *Nadir-Cha*, hearing of this important Loss, and judging himself unable to cope with the Enemy in the Field, had marched back again, thinking that by defending his Capital *Labor* he might gain time for the Arrival of the Succours which he expected to his Relief; but that finding *Nadir-Cha* had prepared every thing to block up the Town, which was therefore likely to undergo the Fate of *Pesawor*, he came to the desperate Resolution to sally forth with his Army, and try if Fortune would favour his Courage; that he had accordingly marched out of the City with his Troops, and attacked the *Persians* with great Bravery, but that after having engaged them for some time, he had been obliged to give way to the superior Strength

of

of the Enemies, to retreat into the City, and afterwards to surrender it to the Conqueror upon Capitulation, whereby it was amongst other things stipulated, That the Inhabitants should not be in the least molested ; that these Terms had been faithfully observed by the *Persian General*, for that after having taken Possession of the City, he had caused Proclamation to be made, That on pain of severe Punishment not the least Disturbance should be given to any in the Place : This Information concluded with an Account that the *Persian Monarch*, after having gained that Conquest, had sent a Detachment of thirty thousand, commanded by his principal Officers, to engage the Omrahs *Nezamelmolluck* and *Cammarudien-Chan*.

*Mamet-Cha* being acquainted with these Disasters, his Eyes were in some measure opened ; he began with more Attention to behold the Tempest which threatned him, and was now sensible that he had to deal with a victorious and enraged Enemy, who was approaching him at the Head of a triumphant Army with a fixed Purpose of dethroning him, whilst on the contrary a general Terror and Dejection reigned amongst his own Subjects. He now therefore resolved to create his Son *Amet-Cha* General of his Forces, for which Purpose he caused him to be conducted to him from his Palace in a pompous manner, seated in a Chair adorned with all kinds of precious Stones, conferring on him, at the same time, many valuable Presents. This Prince having received his Commission, immediately marched to the Side of *Karnal*, with Intention to join the Armies of the Omrahs that were gone before him, whither he was soon after followed by his Father with a vast Quantity of war-like

like Stores, among which were 1200 Pieces of Cannon, and 500 disciplined Elephants.

Whilst the Monarch of *Indostan* thus prepared himself for an Engagement, or at least made an outward Appearance of doing so, and had placed his Forces behind some Entrenchments on the Frontiers of *Labor* near *Karnal*, to prevent the encroaching *Persians* from extending their Conquests any farther, *Nadir-Cha*, having brought the Province of *Labor* entirely under Subjection, and joined the Troops intended for the attacking of *Nezammel-molluck* and *Cammarudien-Chan*, encamped within seven inland Miles of him.

Both Armies being now come almost within sight of each other, a decisive Battle was soon expected, which would either secure the Scepter in the Hands of *Mamet-Cha*, or reduce him, from a kind of Demi-God, to a State of Misery and Contempt. The *Persian* Army consisting of 70 or 75000 Men, proud of their Leader and Fortune, was impatient to engage the Enemy, and to enrich themselves with the Plunder of the immense Treasures of *Indostan*.

On the contrary, in the Army of the *Mogul*, Fear, Terror, and Confusion were predominant throughout. The Number of People in the *Mogul's* Camp was incredible, being reckoned at above 500000 Horse, and, according to the Order of the *Moorish* Armies, double that Number of Foot; but it was a motley, untrained, lascivious, cowardly Crew, who had never so much as seen an Engagement, and who were so unfortunate at the same time to be led by the most dastardly Prince that ever took the Part of a Commander upon him. As to the Omrahs, who, by good Conduct, might in

in some degree have redressed these Evils, they were at Disagreement among themselves, every one commanding as he thought fit, by which means these Disorders were augmented.

The opponent Armies remained thus for some time without the least Motion, when the Omrah *Sadaat-Chan* arrived in the *Mogul's* Camp, being sent for by that Monarch from *Aoud*, of which he was Governor. He was by Birth a *Persian*, and was a very good Soldier, but an implacable Enemy of *Chandouraan* one of the King's Favourites, and consequently not the most cordially affected towards his Majesty himself; this Omrah being gone to present himself before the King, and to salute the Nobles that attended him, News was brought him that the *Perians* had seized on his Baggage, upon which he went out immediately to its Rescue, being followed by *Chandouraan*, and other Nobles at the Head of their Troops; hereupon an Engagement began with the Van-guard of the Enemy, and a bloody Fight ensued, wherein great Numbers were slain on both sides, the *Moguls* obliging the Enemy to retire to their Main Army; but this happy beginning was the only Advantage they ever gained, for here they were soon stopped in their Progress, their Army being easily put to flight by that of the *Perians*, and forced to retire within their Entrenchments. This unfortunate Issue is charged upon *Sadaat-Chan*, for they look upon his fending his Baggage so nigh the Enemy's Camp as a Stratagem of his in order to destroy his Enemy *Chandouraan*, it being affirmed that the *Persian* Army opened their Ranks at *Sadaat-Chan's* Approach, and that *Nadir-Cha* received him with open Arms; and indeed the great Favour he was afterwards in with this Prince seems to give a

Sanction

28      *The History of Nadir-Cha,*

Sanction to such a Conjecture; but be that as it will, all Reports agree that he himself was wounded, and that *Chandouraan*, after having given many singular Proofs of his Courage, died upon the Spot of his Wounds.

The Account of this Engagement, and of the great Slaughter made among the Troops of *Chandouraan* and *Sadaat-Chan*, by the *Perians*, was soon brought to *Mamet Cha*; notwithstanding which he was too great a Coward to venture from behind the Entrenchments, satisfying himself with sending Part of his Army to their Succour.

Besides a vast Number of the common Men, several Omrahs were lost in this Engagement, among whom was one *Chan Sanimaa-Chan* formerly Governor of *Patena*, as likewise the Son and Brother of *Chandouraan*. This Loss, though considerable, would not have been perceived in the prodigious Army of the *Mogul's*, if there had been many more of such Valour as *Chandouraan* and the other Commanders that fell with him, but there was a very great Scarcity of such Leaders amongst them.

The *Indostan* Monarch, who had so much boasted in his Letter to *Nadir-Cha* of his mighty Heroes, and the Wonders which he was to perform with his Armies like unto Seas, was now too timorous to make the least Effort for maintaining himself upon the Throne; the Loss of a Handful of Men caused the Crown to tremble upon his Head, and was considered by him as a fatal Omen of his approaching Destiny, and of *Nadir-Cha's* becoming, by that means, the greatest Monarch in the Universe. The Omrahs, cloathed with such heroick Titles, laid aside their Valour and Thirst of Glory,

ry, and were as humble and peaceable as their Enemies could wish them to be, whilst the common Soldiers trembled at the very Sight of a *Persian*, and durst not venture out of their Camp.

The *Persian* Chief taking Advantage of the Victory he had gained, and of the Dejection it had caused in the *Mogul's* Army, cut off immediately all Communication between their Camp and the adjacent Country, insomuch that it was impossible for them to be supplied from any Quarter with Provisions or other Necessaries. This soon occasioned a dreadful Famine among them, and their Stock of Provisions being entirely exhausted, they were forced to feed upon any sort of Animals they could come at, without Distinction. At length the generous Conqueror, reflecting on the calamitous Condition he had reduced them to, was moved with Compassion, and begun to entertain Thoughts of a Peace; hereupon he caused the Omrah *Nezam-molluck*, for whom he had a particular Favour, to be brought before him, and having received him with Demonstrations of great Affection, he entered into Discourse with him concerning the Pretensions of the *Persian* Crown to the Empire of the *Mogul*, and made the following Declaration to him.

*First*, That he was come to re-unite those Countries to the *Persian* Kingdom which are situated on the West-side of the *Indus*, the Possession whereof belonged to the *Persian* King *Shah-Abas*, agreeable to a Treaty made between him and the *Mogul Homagion*, and which had since been unjustly usurped by the Kings of the *Moguls*.

*Secondly*, That he was come to demand the famous Throne of the Kings of the *Moguls*, which the great *Tamerlane* erected in *Persia* at the Charge  
of

of nine Caroors \*, and afterwards carried with him into *Indostan*.

*Thirdly*, That *Homagion*, King of the *Moguls*, had borrowed ten thousand Soldiers of the *Perfian* King *Shah-Abas* to establish him on the Throne, promising as soon as he had gained his Point to refund the Charges, which Promise he had never performed, and that therefore he came to demand Restitution to be made for that Omission.

*Fourthly*, That he intended to call the King of the *Moguls* to an Account for the Non-Performance of a Contract made between the two Monarchies, providing, That if either should be engaged in a War the other should be obliged to give its Assistance; but that notwithstanding this, though the *Perfian* Empire had been almost entirely ruined by the rebellious *Agwans*, and had since been involved in a bloody War with the *Turks*, the Kings of the *Moguls* had not offered her the least Succour.

*And fifthly*, That he would know for what Reasons his Embassadors, whom he had some time since sent to *Mamet-Cha*, were retained, and why his Letters, wherein he demanded what was due from him to *Perfia*, were not answered as they ought to have been.

To all this he added, That notwithstanding the great Charge he had been at upon account of the Preparations for the present War, his long and laborious Marches, and the Resolution he had taken of humbling *Mamet-Cha* by dint of Sword, yet that the present deplorable Condition of that Prince had induced him to listen to an amicable

\* Amounting to eleven millions eight hundred and eighteen thousand Pounds *Sterling*.

Reconciliation, and entirely forget what was past; I therefore give you Orders, said he, to inform your Monarch from me, That I desire an Interview to-morrow, in the Space between the two Armies, where I will meet him half way, and propose such Terms of Accommodation as I shall think proper.

This Omrah being returned to the Army of the *Mogul*, acquainted him with what had passed between him and the *Persian* General.

The two Monarchs met the following Day in the manner agreed upon, when, after embracing each other very affectionately, *Mamet-Cha* made an Offer of his Crown and Dominions to the *Persian* King, who returned him this heroick Answer, That notwithstanding he had by force of Arms very nigh made a Conquest of his whole Empire, and might therefore justly look upon it as his own, he yet declined it, and desired no more than that Accounts should be settled between them, and that whatever *Indostan* was indebted to *Persia* should be instantly paid; this being consented to by *Mamet-Cha*, it was further agreed, That *Nezamel-molluck* should the next Day adjust the Differences, and that *Mamet-Cha* should come the following Day into the *Persian* Camp to be entertained by *Nadir-Cha*, who should on his Part likewise dine with the *Mogul* in his Camp, and that after this, Matters being reciprocally settled, the *Persian* General should return with his Forces to his own Dominions.

From this promising Prospect of a Reconciliation, it was to be hoped that the Discord between these two Princes would have been converted into an amicable Correspondence, and the more so, since the Emperor of the *Moguls* went the next Day,

Day, according to Appointment, to the *Persian* Camp, where he was received with all the Marks of Royalty and Honour. The crowned Heads diverted themselves for the Day extremely well; *Mamet-Cha*, highly pleased with his Entertainment, not returning to his Camp 'till Eight o'Clock at Night, when he made a Present to the *Persian* King of an Elephant adorned with Furniture set with Diamonds, together with six extreme fine Horses, and another Elephant loaden with three Leckes \*.

The next Day *Nezamelmolluck* went to the *Persian* Camp to treat with *Nadir-Cha* concerning his Pretensions, which were rated by him at the vast Sum of Forty Caroor † for a Loan, and for the making good of the Charges of a four Years War with the *Turks*, as likewise for the Expences he should be obliged to be at the two following Years, which he reckoned would be taken up in his Return to *Perſia*; *Nezamelmolluck* did not seem startled at such an exorbitant Demand, but endeavoured coolly to reason the *Persian* Monarch into easier Terms; which he accordingly accomplished, bringing him to join in the following Contract, viz. That King *Mamet-Cha* should refund him Twelve Caroor of Ropees in four Years, three Caroor annually, and five Caroor more in Jewels, together with the Throne of *Tamerlane* valued at nine Caroor, making in all twenty-six Caroor. It was further agreed that both Armies should march off in two Days after that *Mamet-Cha* should have signed and ratified the above Contract, and that *Nadir-Cha*

\* Forty one thousand Pounds *Sterling*.

† Fifty-four millions five hundred forty-five thousand Pounds *Sterling*.

Should no longer prevent Forage and Provisions to be brought to the *Mogul's* Camp.

*Nezamelmolluck*, highly satisfied with these Terms, made all possible Expedition to lay them before *Mamet-Cha*, that, by signing of them, he might prevent any farther Calamities to his People from this War; but that Prince, not reflecting on the Reasonableness of the Proposals, considering they came from a Conqueror who had it in his Power to prescribe him what Laws he pleased, and even to deprive him of his Crown and Empire, answered, That he had no Fund wherewithal to pay such an immense Sum, and that he had rather part with his whole Dominions than agree to such Conditions. *Nezamelmolluck* shewed him how advantageous the Treaty was to him, and what reason he had to rejoice that his Life and Empire were thereby preserved to him; adding, That as for the Money he would find means to raise the Sum stipulated, if it were as much again, without in the least exhausting the Royal Treasure; in order to which he proposed a Tribute to be laid upon the \* *Jentives*, whereby, instead of the twelve Caroor which they usually paid, double that Sum should be demanded of them.

*Mamet-Cha*, notwithstanding this proposal, postponed the Affair till the next Day, and as during his whole Reign he had always hearkened to the Advice of some Sycophants that were about him, so they were not wanting now to dissuade him from signing this Treaty. *Nezamelmolluck*, therefore, waiting the next Day upon his Sovereign, received the following Answer, That he was far from ratifying the Contract which he had made for him with the *Persian* King. This Minister

\* Pagans.

foreseeing what dreadful Consequences *Mamet-Cha's* Conduct would occasion, told his Prince, that the adjusting of the Differences had been left to him, and that He himself had given his Royal Word to ratify whatever was agreed to by him; but all his Reasonings and Endeavours proved ineffectual, for he could no ways prevail upon the *Great Mogul* to comply with his Advice. Hereupon *Nezamelmolluck* desired to know his last Resolution, asking him whether he was determined thus to provoke the Resentment of the *Persian Sovereign*, and sacrifice his People either to the Sword or a Famine. Not being able to get any Answer to this Question he returned, greatly concerned at the ill Success of his Endeavours, according to his Promise, to *Nadir-Cha*, where, as soon as he had made a Report of what had happened, he was ordered into Custody by the *Persian General*, who looked upon it as a plain Violation of Faith towards him. At the same time that Prince broke out into the following Exclamation.

*I have kept my Word, but thou, faithless Mogul, hast not, I shall therefore suffer every one in thy Camp to perish for Want, and thou, faithless Mamet-Cha; and all thy Omrabs shall feel the Resentment of my exasperated Sword.* He hereupon enclosed the Enemy's Army more narrowly than ever, and sent Word to *Mamet-Cha* that he would not sheath his Sword till he had cut Him, his Family and Army in pieces. The following Day, at Dawn of Light, the *Persian Monarch* gave Orders to attack the Enemy, to plunder their Camp, to destroy every thing by Fire and Sword, and to ravish and murder even the King's own Concubines.

Now

Now did *Mamet-Cha*, but alas too late, repent thoroughly of his Obstinacy, and being reduced to the last extremity called for Poison, in order to make away with himself and his whole Family.

In the mean time the imprisoned *Nezamelmolluck*, hearing the dreadful Orders which were given to the *Persian* Soldiers, requested an Audience of *Nadir-Cha*, which having obtained he implored that Prince to postpone for one Day the Execution of the Command: This Request of his was granted, upon Condition that *Mamet-Cha*, who having gone back from his Word, was no more to be trusted, should come that very Day to *Nadir-Cha*, surrender himself Prisoner, and put his Life in his Hands. That being the utmost which *Nezamelmolluck* could obtain, he sent this last Resolution of the *Persian* Monarch to his Sovereign, who came to the Camp of *Nadir-Cha* at three o'Clock that Afternoon, where he surrendered himself, and was immediately made Prisoner; upon which the Conqueror sent ten thousand of his Forces to secure the Omrahs, and make themselves Masters of the *Mogul's* Artillery.

We may here remark in King *Mamet-Cha* an eminent Instance of the Vicissitude of human Grandeur, and the external Circumstances of Mankind. Behold one of the greatest Monarchs of the Earth dethroned, and cast to languish in a joyless Prison! and at the same time a Shepherd's Son exalted to the Sovereignty of the two vast Empires of *Persia* and *Indostan*!

The Omrah *Sadaat-Chan*, who, as has been said, was come over to *Nadir-Cha*, advised him now to ascend the Throne of the *Moguls*, and to enclose the imprisoned Emperor within two Walls, or to take him off by some other means; to

which the *Persian* Chief gave this generous Answer, That although the Prince of *Indostan* had violated his Word, yet he would do him no personal Injury, commanding, at the same time, that the Army of the *Mogul*, in which a vast Quantity of Provisions were brought to Sale, should join his Forces; whereupon he immediately took the Road to the Capital *Delly*, and being arrived at the Garden of the *Mogul* Emperors, called *Salaamar*, five inland Miles from the City, he ordered the Omrah *Sadaat-Chan* to go to *Delly* before him, and take care that none of the Inhabitants should presume, at the time of his Entry into the City, to appear upon the Roofs of their Houses, or at the Windows, or at any other Place where they might see him; and to prevent the great Dust his Army marching with him might raise, he commanded him to take care that the High-Ways were well watered and cleaned every where, as likewise that Appartments were prepared in the Castle for *Mamet-Cha*, whom he ordered, with his Women, to march to *Delly* the next Day early in the Morning, and to resort to the Lodgings prepared for his Reception. This unfortunate Prince set out accordingly at break of day, being presented at his Departure, by *Nadir-Cha*, with a Royal Chair, and conducted out of the Army in a Magnificent Manner.

The famous *Moorish* Feast *Backred*, or *Abraham's Offering*, happening upon the next Day, (being the tenth of *March* 1738-9) it was pitched upon by the *Persian* King to make his Entry into *Delly*, whither he began his March very early, and entered it at nine in the Morning.

The Streets and the \* Roofs of the Houses were every where guarded by Soldiers, with loaded Fire-Arms, to prevent any of the Inhabitants endeavouring to see him ; though the Reason could never be guessed at why he chose not be seen the Day of his Entry, since he afterwards frequently appeared in Publick ; but whatever was the Cause of this, his Orders were executed with such Punctuality that no one could boast of having seen him at that time, although it is said that he rode on Horse-back, accompanied by his Son.

The *Persian* King was scarcely arrived in the Castle before he ordered the City to be so closely surrounded by his Soldiers, that it was impossible for any body to escape, which soon occasioned a great Scarcity of Provisions, and consequently a dreadful Famine in the Town ; he further commanded that the detained Princes of the Royal Blood, and the other imprisoned Nobles, who were before separated, should be kept together in one Place, and that the Wives of *Mamet-Cha* should be conveyed into the Castle, and lodged in a separate Apartment ; the Chief amongst these, called *Milko Semanio Begum*, a Daughter of the late King *Farogzier*, being a Woman of high Spirit, and expecting nothing but Importunities and Force from this Removal, and that she should be obliged to satisfy the Lasciviousness of the *Persians*, is said to have put an end to her Life by Poison, in which Resolution she is reported to have been followed by the principal among them ;

\* The Reader must remember that the Roofs of their Houses in *India*, are both flat and low, and therefore the most commodious Places from whence to take a View of such Processions.

this Particular however has since been contradicted by some Persons, and may admit of Dispute.

The same Day the imprisoned Emperor was invited to Dinner by the *Persian Monarch*, who, after giving him a most splendid Entertainment, enquired of him where his Treasures were reposed. The *Mogul* answered, That he had never troubled himself about them, but had always left them to the care of his Ministers, and as they were present desired that the Question might be put to them; of which Request the Conqueror made a very good Use.

*Nadir-Cha*, being now in full Possession of every Thing, ordered this superb Inscription to be struck upon the Coin, *He is a King above the present Kings, and King of all the Kings that have reigned for Ages*, to wit, N A D I R - C H A. This Prince being very much prejudiced against the Omrahs on account of their Pride and Cowardice, forbid them to be carried for the future in \* *Palenquins*, and gave Orders that they should keep no Equipage beyond one Servant and one Saddle-Horse; an Injunction very grating to that haughty Tribe, who were accustomed never to appear in Publick without a numerous Retinue, and who, little regarding the Will of their Sovereign, lived in what manner they themselves thought proper.

The *Persian King* had now nothing to consider, but how to make himself Master of the immense Treasure of the *Great Mogul*, together with that of the Omrahs, and other wealthy Inhabitants of *Delly*. The first Thing he seized upon was the splendid Throne of *Tamerlane*, which the Princes of the *Moguls* always call in their Royal Mandates, *The most glorious Throne that can over-*

\* A Kind of Chairs.

*Shadow Nations in the time of Peace; the Throne of Honour and Lustre exalted to the Heavens; the Throne reaching to the Clouds, &c.* This he stripped of its many inestimable Pearls and precious Stones, whose matchless Lustre dazzled the Eyes of every Beholder, at the same time despoiling *Mamet-Cha* of his valuable Jewels and vast Treasures, which had been heaping together by the Monarchs of *Indostan* during a Series of many Years. He filled his Chests still more, by exacting heavy Contributions from the Nobles and all the Inhabitants without Distinction; the Collection whereof was made with such Severity that many, whose Possessions were for the best part taken from them, or whose hereditary Goods were seized upon, daily made away with themselves either by Daggers or Poison. The Soldiers of this Monarch in the mean while did not fail of following their Leader's Example, robbing and plundering on every side, and causing a universal Desolation through the City.

During these tyrannical Proceedings the valiant *Saadat-Chan* died suddenly, of which the *Persian* King being informed, caused him to be buried the next Day, and then took Possession of all his Goods, as he had before done of what *Chandouraan*, who was slain in Battle, had left behind him.

Some Days after this \* four Omrahs, who were confined in Prison, being intoxicated with Liquor to an excessive Degree, gave out in the Evening at Eight o'Clock, that *Mamet-Cha* had stabbed the King of *Persia* with a Dagger, and then fell upon and killed the twenty Horsemen who kept the Watch over them. This Rumour was immediate-

\* On the 17th of March.

ly spread over the City, and occasioned every where Confusion and Mutiny ; the riotous Mob were soon up in Arms, who falling upon the *Persian* Soldiers massacred five thousand of them, the remainder escaping their Rage by flying for Refuge to the Castle, from whence the Cannon were immediately planted towards the Town, and kept firing all that Night. The *Persian* King finding how treacherously he was dealt with by the *Moguls*, who, upon a false Report only of his Death, had attacked his Troops with such Inveteracy, was enraged beyond measure, and gave his Soldiers Orders to plunder and burn the whole City of *Delly* the next Day, to ravish all their Women, and put to Death every one, of whatever Sex or Age, they found in the Place.

The time appointed for executing this fatal Order being come, *Nadir-Cha* went without the Gates of the City to be an Eye-Witness of the horrid Tragedy, placing himself in a Mosque in the Plain of *Nichocque*, where the Shops of the Bankers and Merchants are, and which is therefore a very populous Place. Now begun the greatest Slaughter and Havock that ever was heard of ; the Blood flowed in Rivers through the Streets, and not the least Mercy was shewn by the exasperated *Persians*. The Women, after having been forcibly debauched, were either murdered by their Ravishers, thus cleansing their polluted Honour with their Blood, or else were taken Prisoners. In a word, the inhuman Soldiers made use both of Fire and Sword, without the least Restraint, to satiate their Revenge, and to leave Posterity a sad Memorial of their Rage and Barbarity ; Slaughter and Ruin reigning in every Street, and the Town itself being in

in Flames at four several Corners at the same time.

The Omrah, *Nezamelmolluck*, who was yet under Confinement, hearing the Groans of the Wounded and Dying, and the Cries of the ravished Women; and from this, and some confused Reports, apprehending what had happened, found means to escape from the Watch that was set over him, and ran directly to *Nadir-Cha*, whom he found sitting in the Mosque beholding, with great Tranquillity, this horrid Ravage. He was eating Sweetmeats at the same time, some of which he caused to be presented to the Omrah upon a Plate, who refused to accept them, saying, That he was not come to receive Food, but Death from his Hands, since he had taken away such a Number of Lives without enquiring from whence the Disorder sprung which provoked him to it, and then solemnly asked him if he was not afraid Heaven should cause the Mosque, wherein he sat, to fall on him and crush him to Death, when he had been the Occasion of the Destruction of so many thousands, merely on account of some Villains having spread a false Report of his Death, whereby a few of his Soldiers had suffered in a Tumult: Take but some of the Sweetmeats, replied the Monarch, and I'll go and give Orders for the Slaughter to cease; and do you at the same time make a diligent Search after Those who were the Occasion of it, that they may suffer a Punishment equal to their Crime.

It was Noon when the *Persian* King gave Orders to sheath the murdering Sword, which had raged through the City ever since the Break of Day; but it was impossible to have this Order immediately executed every where, or soon to assuage the

the Fury of the provoked Soldiers; and the more so, because, as was afterwards discovered, a great Number of the most abandoned Profligates had mixed themselves with the *Persians*; the Cries therefore of Murder did not cease 'till late in the Evening, and the Fire could not be extinguished 'till eight Days afterwards.

The following Day the *Perſian Monarch* gave Orders that all the Prisoners, except the most beautiful Women, should be set at Liberty. The dead Bodies, which were spread through the Streets, and left there for some Days a miserable Spectacle of the Rage and Cruelty that had been committed, soon caused an Infection in the Air, which made the said Monarch issue his Commands that the *Mabometans* and Pagans should be promiscuously burnt together in Piles. By this time *Nezamelmolluck* had discovered those who spread the false Report of *Nadir-Cha's* Death, and who were consequently the Occasion of all this Devastation, who, although nearly related to himself, were strangled by his Command.

The Blood that was shed had quenched *Nadir-Cha's* Revenge, but his extravagant Avarice was not yet satisfied, for he imposed new Contributions on the Inhabitants of *Delly*, who were already sufficiently fleeced by him, and extorted a Discovery from them, by a kind of Torture in use among the *Persians*, where what they had left of value was to be found, when it was immediately seized, and conveyed to the Conqueror's Treasury.

The Cause of these repeated Oppressions was attributed to the Death of *Sadaat-Chan*, who, during his Life had always been a Protector of the common People, had executed the exorbitant Demands of *Nadir-Cha* with Reluctance, and had taken from

from none but those that were rich. Inconceivable Treasures were amassed together by these compulsive Methods, and the *Perfian* Soldiers being forbid, on pain of Death, to keep any more than a hundred Ropees for themselves \*, the Surplus of their Plunder was deposited in the King's Treasury.

The great Pearls, inestimable Diamonds, choice Rubies, and other select precious Stones, which for a long time past had been collecting by the curious Emperors and Nobles of *Indostan* from all parts, but especially from the rich Diamond-Mines of *Golconda*, between *Surratt* and *Orixa*, were by Order of the *Perfian* King packed up in Chests, that they might be more easily removed. These Jewels alone were valued at nine million six hundred and fifty thousand Pounds *Sterling*.

The pompous Hall of the *Indostan* Sovereign, the Walls whereof were covered with silver Plates, and adorned with massive Pilasters of the same Metal, were disrobed of all their splendid Ornaments, which, together with the Silver coined and uncoined, were melted down into Bars to be conveyed by Camels; but the gold Ropees were packed up in Chests, to the making of which a great Number of Workmen were daily employed. All these Treasures last mentioned amounted, as is credibly affirmed, to the immense Sum of One hundred and fifty-one Millions and a half *Sterling*.

Many, perhaps, will look upon this Account as a Fiction, not being able to believe that such astonishing Riches could possibly be found in one Kingdom; but those, who have had the Oppor-

\* About Fourteen Pounds *Sterling*.

tunity of being acquainted with the vast Confluence of Wealth to the Court of the *Great Mogul* from all Parts, will easily give Credit to it.

In the mean while a Report was spread that the *Persian* Monarch intended to re-establish *Mamet-Cha* on the Throne of *Indostan*, and to return himself to his own Dominions, which was corroborated by the Preparations he made for the Removal of the Treasures, his draining and cruel Treatment of the Subjects of that Kingdom, many of whom he caused to be ripped up, or their Nose and Ears to be cut off for slight Misdemeanours; and lastly, by his not having ascended the *Mogul's* Throne. This Suggestion was yet farther credible from a Promise the *Persian* Prince had made the imprisoned Emperor, that he would restore him to his Crown.

This Promise was at length made good by *Nadir-Cha*, after marrying one of his Sons to a Niece of the *Mogul*, who was Grand-daughter to Prince *Kambegs* Son to the famous *Aurengzebe*, to whom he gave a Dowry of forty Caroor \*, which, though a prodigious Sum, might very well be spared by *Nadir-Cha* out of his enormous Exactions on the Subjects of *Indostan*.

The *Persian* Monarch, not being satisfied with the Demolition of the Capital *Delly*, and the vast Treasures which he had amassed, demanded farther, That *Mamet-Cha* should retrench the Boundaries of his Empire, and that his Dominions for the future should extend no farther than the *Indus*; this was agreed to by the imprisoned King, now accustomed to submit himself to the Laws of the Conque-

\* Fifty four Million, five hundred forty five thousand Pounds Sterling.

ror, in the following Manifesto, which was delivered in form of a Letter, at the Head of which he calls *Nadir-Cha, A King of Kings, and King since the Flight of Mahomet, a second Alexander, and a Godhead.* The Contents were as follow.

‘ YOU sent Ambassadors to treat with me, and  
‘ I did what lay in my Power to dispatch them  
‘ immediately, so that you should not have been  
‘ put to the Necessity of sending *Mamet-Chan*  
‘ to me a second time, had it not been for my  
‘ Ministers, who always put off the giving of  
‘ Answers, and by that means delayed the De-  
‘ parture of your Ambassadors, chusing rather to  
‘ sow Strife and Discord between our Domi-  
‘ nions, than to do as I ordered them; this then  
‘ has been the Reason that you, impatient at  
‘ your Ambassadors being retained, resolved to  
‘ come and invade my Country. We have given  
‘ Battle to each other, wherein Fortune favoured  
‘ you, and turned the Victory on your side, even  
‘ so far that you have made yourself Master of  
‘ my Dominions, my Capital *Delly*, and my Per-  
‘ son. You have taken my Jewels and Treas-  
‘ sures from me, and, above that, have de-  
‘ manded of me the List of my Revenues: Yet  
‘ seeing that you will restore the Throne and  
‘ Crown to me, I agree to yield them up to you,  
‘ and hereby declare you Sovereign Lord of the Side  
‘ of *Ouen*, the Country of *Noudabeck*, the Sea  
‘ of *Sind*, the River of *Sangare* and *Chaora*, the  
‘ Side of *Cabul*, the Mountains of *Pattan*, the  
‘ Castle of *Texel*, *Cudabaar*, and whatever de-  
‘ pends upon *Patta* and *Retta*. In short, of all  
‘ that is situated on the West-side of the *Indus*,  
‘ and

‘ and shall only keep the Kingdom of *Indostan* to  
‘ myself.

*Nadir-Cha* was not yet satisfied with this Condescension, mean as it was, and wherein the Character of that pusillanimous Prince appeared very plainly, but insisted upon the *Mogul's* binding himself to pay a yearly Contribution to *Persia* of three Caroor \*, and likewise to assist the said Empire whenever it should be attacked by any Enemy whatsoever.

The next Day the *Persian* Prince invited *Mamet-Cha* to take a farewell Dinner with him, and after having entertained him in a Royal manner, he returned him the pompous *Regalia* of the *Mogul* Monarchs, and proclaimed him Sovereign of the *Indostan* Empire, giving him withal the Letters which he had for some time past received from the malecontented Omrahs, wherein they incessantly solicited him to invade the *Indostan* Empire; telling him, at the same time, that none had been more faithful to him than *Nezamelmolluck*, *Cammarudien-Chan*, and *Chandouraan*. The first of these *Nadir-Cha* made upon this Occasion Mierbax, or General Muster-Master, and commanded the King not to put any thing in Execution without previously consulting him: The second he appointed Wessier, or Chancellor of the Empire; and the Children of the last he recommended to the Favour of *Mamet-Cha*, who replied thereupon, *With what shall I favour them?* *You have left me nothing to do it withal.*

\* Amounting to four Millions one hundred thousand Pounds *Sterling*.

The First of *May* 1739 was pitched on by *Nadir-Cha* to set out upon his Return to his *Persian* Dominions, wherefore, as soon as that Day was come, he restored King *Mamet-Cha* to his Crown in the Prefence of a great Number of Omrahs, making him, at the same time, a Present of two Caroor \*, as likewise a great Number of Horses and Mules; and to every one of the Nobles he gave a Suit of Honour; after which he was conducted out of the City by the *Great Mogul*, and went to the Garden *Salamaar*, already mentioned, whither he had the Day before sent his whole Army, about 16000 of the fairest Female Prisoners, and all his Elephants, Horses and other Baggage, as likewise the immense Treasures of the *Indostan* Empire.

Every thing being thus made ready for his March, the triumphant Monarch took the Road to *Persia*, by the way of the Province of *Labor*, leaving every where sad Monuments of his Cruelty and Rapine, and giving fatal Cause to the poor pillaged Inhabitants of that Country to think of his Name with Terror and Abhorrence. The last News, concerning his Return, informs us that he was actually employed in building Bridges over the *Indus*, and would soon pass that River, and that thus this Scourge of the *Mogul's* Monarchy was at last to take leave of the *Indostan* Empire.

\* Twenty seven Millions *Sterling*.



Copy of a Royal Regam sent by his Ma-  
jesty *Nadir-Cha*, or *Wellie Nhamed*, from  
*Labor*: Written in the Month of *Janu-*  
*ary* 1738-9, to his Son the \* *Walliaad*,  
*Rhesa Kuli-Mirza*.

*At the Head it was thus written.*

‘ In the Name of the Gracious and  
‘ Merciful God, who is forgiving,  
‘ and shews Mercy.

*Lower, the Seal of the Prince: And underneath  
as follows:*

‘ **I**N the Name of the Good, Great, and Mer-  
‘ ciful God, who is forgiving, and shews  
‘ Mercy, This Command is given, That my dear  
‘ and most worthy Son, *Rhesa Kuli-Mirza Nai*, of  
‘ the Kingdom of *Persia*, be firmly assured of my  
‘ Royal Grace and Favour, and know, That  
‘ on the 16th of the Month *Ramajoen-ul inhoe-*  
‘ *bark* of the Year 1151 †, I broke up from the  
‘ Resting-Place *Biesjapoer*, and on *Tuesday* the  
‘ 9th of the Month *Sjawael* ‡ made my Entry  
‘ into *Labor*, of old the Royal Place of Resi-

\* Viceroy.

† The 16th of *December*, 1738.

‡ The 20th of *January*, 1738-9.

dence of the *Indostan* Monarchs, which Place  
 being the largest and strongest in all the Em-  
 pire, I, by God's Aid, and agreeable to his  
 Eternal Decree, assaulted and forced to surren-  
 der, with a very small Loss, his Highness *Sik-*  
*kerias-Chan*, and all the high as well as infe-  
 rior Officers coming out and dutifully subje&ting  
 themselves to me after the Capitulation was agreed  
 upon. For Memorials of this important Con-  
 quest I have caused Medals to be struck in the  
 said Place. I propose to go from thence the  
 22d of the said Month, and to march to  
*Sjab-Joen-Abat*\*, in hopes that I shall likewise  
 soon be Master of that Capital; and, when fully  
 crowned with Laurels of Victory, I intend to  
 take my Rout back to *Persia*: Be you, my  
 dear Son, ever mindful that nothing happens  
 without God's Eternal Decree. Let your hopes,  
 therefore, be always steady, and established on  
 his Grace; you must always trust and be in  
 hopes that the good God will increase my King-  
 doms, and favour my Arms and Conquests:  
 At the same time I hereby order you faithfully to  
 transmit to me whatever happens in *Assar Bajoen*,  
 or elsewhere: Be likewise ready and watchful,  
 upon all Occasions, to keep yourself free from  
 any Misdemeanors; For all those that tread out  
 of the right way may be assured that it will cost  
 them their Heads; but those on the contrary that  
 keep within the Paths of Obedience, and walk  
 in the right way, shall be Partakers of, and over-  
 flowed with my Royal Favour.

Written in the Month *Sjawael* of the Year

1151. †

\* *Delly*, so called by the *Persians*.

† January 1738-9.



Copy of a *Perſian Regam*, from *Rhesa-Kuli-Mirza*, Williaad of the *Perſian Kingdom*, to *Abol Haffan-Chan*, Governor of *Iſpahan*.

Command is hereby given that *Abol Haffan-Chan*, Governor of *Iſpahan*, know that I have received a Letter of his Highness *Gannig-Chan* from *Naderæbat*, wherein the said Duke acquaints me, That after His Royal Majesty, our Most Gracious Lord and Sovereign, had left *Labor*, and pursued his March to *Sjah-Joen-Abat*, he was met by the Wallie of *Indostan*, with a great Number of Soldiers and Elephants, and with warlike Provisions of every kind, that a severe Battle had ensued between them, the Consequence of which was, that after a long Resistance the *Indostans* were totally defeated, and obliged to quit the Field, leaving behind them several of their Commanders, as *Sadaat-Chan*, *Nezamelmolluck* and *Cammarudien-Chan*, who dutifully subjected themselves to his Majesty, and, after the taking of *Joen-Abat*, assisted at his Majesty's Entrance into the said Place.

And, since this is a very joyful Piece of News, you must acquaint Great and Small therewith, that every body being filled with Joy may be prompted to implore the Heavens for the Welfare

‘ Welfare of the King, and for God’s Blessings  
‘ over our Arms. This our Order must be ob-  
‘ served.

‘ Written in the Month \* *Sjekada Tullbaroem* of  
“ the Year 1151.

\* March 1738-9.



Copy of a *Persian Regam* written by  
*Nadir-Cha*, or *Wellie Nhamed*, on the  
29th of the Month *Sjekada-Tullbaroem* of  
the Year 1151 from *Delly* the Royal  
Place of Residence of *Indostan*, to his Son  
*Rhesa-Kuli-Mirza, Walliaad* of the *Persian*  
Kingdom, now residing at *Masjet*.

‘ In the Name of the Almighty and  
‘ Great God, who shews Mercy and  
‘ Forgiveness.

Lower the Monarch’s Seal impressed in black Ink.  
Underneath as follows,

‘ **I**N the Name of the Almighty, Great and  
‘ Merciful God, who shews Mercy, and is  
‘ forbearing and gracious, this Command is given,  
‘ which the World must obey to our dear and  
‘ most worthy Son *Rhesa-Kuli-Mirza*, That he  
‘ may firmly confide in our Royal Affection,  
‘ and be assured of our Favour, and know, That

• after we had the Happiness to conquer and  
• root out the *Agwan Esreff*, we sent *Aly Mer-*  
• *doen-Chan*, as Embassador to the *Mogul Mamet-*  
• *Cha* at *Indostan*, in order to make a League with  
• the said Monarch for demolishing of the *Ag-*  
• *wans* of *Candahar* and other Places, who had  
• occasioned Disturbances as well in his as our  
• Empire. This Treaty, after some Intercourses,  
• was agreed on to the Satisfaction of us both,  
• the *Mogul* having thereby obliged himself to  
• lodge some Forces on the High-Ways and  
• Boundaries, in order to cut off all Passage from  
• the *Agwans*, and thus to prevent their Escape.  
• After the Return of the said Embassador we  
• sent *Mamed-Aly-Chan* in Embassage thither for  
• the renewing of our said Treaty, when King  
• *Mamet-Cha* promised a second Time to main-  
• tain and perform it very faithfully. Being come  
• to *Candahar*, and having drafted off a Detach-  
• ment from my Army, and sent them to *Calaat*,  
• and *Gafreyn*, I was acquainted that they had not  
• found any Troops there, as was stipulated by  
• the Treaty; upon this I sent *Mamet-Chan Tur-*  
• *kamen* Post, as Embassador extraordinary, to  
• insist upon the Performance of the Contract,  
• but he could neither get a Satisfactory Answer,  
• or even an Audience, nor so much as Leave for  
• his Return from either the King or his Min-  
• isters. After I had therefore attacked and sub-  
• dued the *Gazreyns* and *Cabuls*, together with the  
• Malecontent, and Wicked *Bergito's* of the said  
• Places, I could not easily brook the Prince of  
• *Indostan's* having neither sent an Embassador,  
• nor Auxiliaries, according to Agreement, where-  
• fore I arose and marched with my whole Army

‘ to-

towards the Place of Residence, called *Sjab-Joen-Abat*, as I had done heretofore in the conquering of *Pyshore* and *Lahor*, the old Place of Royal Residence, from which I departed the last Day of the Month *Sjawael* \*, and arrived in ten Days at the Village of *Amballa* forty Miles from *Joen-Abat*. Here I learned that *Mamet-Cha* with his high and inferior Officers were at *Malipot*, twenty five Miles from my said Encampment, at the Head of his numerous Forces, amounting to the Number of three hundred thousand Men, provided with two thousand Pieces of Cannon, three thousand armed Elephants, and a vast Quantity of warlike Stores. Upon this Intelligence I left all my heavy Baggage at *Amballa*, and posted away to *Malipot*, but *Mamet-Cha* by this time had left it, encamping himself a-new at the Village of *Carbaal*, twenty five Miles from *Joen-Abat*.

I detached five or six thousand of my Men, as soon as I had left *Amballa*, to observe the Enemies Camp, their Number of Soldiers, and how they were entrenched, together with their Situation in every Respect, that I might know in what manner I might best attack them: This Detachment being advanced within two Miles of the Enemy's Army, fell in with ten or twelve thousand of their Troops, whereupon a severe Battle ensued between them, in which the latter were entirely defeated, and put to flight, leaving several of their Commanders behind them, some of whom I brought alive in Triumph to my Camp, whilst others lay slain in

\* The 24th of *Jannay*.

‘ the Field of Battle. After this Defeat *Mamet-Cha* encamped himself at *Carbaal* within strong Entrenchments, and planted a vast Artillery round his Camp; I then sent another Detachment to view the Road from *Sjab-Jcen-Abat* ordering them to take their March on the East-side of *Mamet-Cha's* Camp; these returned *Monday* Evening the 15th of the said Month\*, with News that *Sadaat-Chan*, one of the greatest and most powerful Nobles of *Indostan*, and Governor of several Places, was arrived at *Malipot* to the *Mogul's* Assistance with thirty thousand Men, and a great Quantity of Artillery, Elephants and warlike Stores. Upon Notice of this I broke up with my whole Army at two in the Morning and in order to prevent *Sadaat Chan's* joining the *Mogul*, made my Forces halt between *Carbaal* and *Malipot*, hoping at the same time to draw *Mamet-Cha* out of his Camp, he being too advantageously intrenched to be attacked there.

‘ On *Tuesday* Morning, an Hour and a Half after Sun-rising, I found my self on the East-side of *Mamet-Cha's* Camp, when some of *Sadaut-Chan's* People were intercepted, and brought before me, of whom I got Intelligence that the said *Chin* had safely arrived in the Camp of *Mamet-Cha* at three o'Clock the Morning before. I, being advanced within a Mile of the Enemy's Camp, thought proper to stop there, and throw up Entrenchments, but *Mamet-Cha*, seeing himself strengthened with such a Force, ordered all his Troops to be under Arms, two

\* The 7th of February.

‘ thirds

thirds whereof he left in Care of his Camp, and came half a Mile to meet me in the Afternoon with the remaining Part, attended with a great Quantity of Artillery, &c. He drew up his Forces immediately in Line of Battle, and took his Station in the middle of the Army, which, according to Computation, covered two Miles in Length, and half a Mile in Breadth, containing at least ten or twelve times the Number of the Troops of *Abdulla Patcha*. I, who had long desired to see such a Day, leaving some Men in care of my Tents, went forth with the rest of the Army in Person, putting my Hopes and Trust in God. I instantly attacked the Enemy, and engaged them courageously for two Hours together, till at last by God's gracious Blessing the Victory inclined to my Side, the *Moguls* shamefully betaking themselves by Flight to their Camp. *Sadaat-Chan* was taken alive, sitting on his Elephant, together with his Brother's Son *Mamed-Chan*, and almost all his Relations; as likewise *Chandouraan*, late *Sjaeb-Agtiar* of the *Indostan* Empire, who was dangerously wounded; this Omrah's Brother, and Son *Moffassar-Chan* were slain, and his other Son *Miaffoer* was taken alive, but he himself died the next Day of his Wounds. *Wasilie-Chan*, *Zadaeb-Chan*, *Amier Kuli-Chan*, *Aly Mamet-Chan*, *Achtabaar-Chan*, *Ackkel-Nieck-Chan*, *Aly Agmed-Chan*, *Sjabdaat-Chan Agwan*, and *Jerriem Rhay* great Master of the Artillery, were slain in the Field, with about three hundred other Commanding Officers, of whom ten to fifteen Persons were reckoned of the Quality from ten to forty thousand. *Nezamelmolluck*, Governor of seven of the chief

‘ Places of *Deckben*, and Generalissimo of the *Indostan* Empire, *Cammarudien-Chan*, *Attourma-doulet* Governor of the Empire, and some other Omrahs luckily escaped by their Camp being so near.

‘ This Battle, and the Plundering afterwards, lasted four Hours, the Sun being two Hours above the Horizon when all was over, and the Enemy had quitted the Field, Yet I did not think proper to venture an Attack upon their Works, they being too strongly entrenched, as I observed before. The Booty of Elephants, Artillery, &c. which my People took on that Day was exceeding great; above twenty thousand Men fell in the Field of Battle, and a great Number were taken alive. After my People had a little recovered themselves, we began to make Counterscarps and Bulwarks round where *Mamet-Cha*’s Army was entrenched, planting a great many Cannons and Mortars against the four strongest Corners of the Camp. But the Enemy being by the late Defeat put into Confusion, Terror and Dejection, *Mamet-Cha* did on the 17th of the Month above-mentioned\* send *Nezamelmolluck*, praying that what had passed, with regard to my Ambassador, might be forgiven; and the next Day the Monarch himself, accompanied by many of the chief Lords of *Indostan*, came to my Camp; but since that Prince is, as well as we, of the illustrious Family of *Turkamen*, I therefore sent my Son *Nassur-Ulla Mirza* to meet and receive him; who, as soon as he arrived at my Tent,

The 10th of February.

\* sur-

‘ surrendered to me the Royal Sealing-Ring of  
‘ the *Indostan* Empire.

‘ He was that Day entertained by me, and  
‘ because of the Respect due from Crowned Heads  
‘ to one another, I ordered that his Tent and  
‘ Seraglio should be placed near my Tent; so  
‘ he, his Wives and Nobles abode with me in  
‘ my Army with great Honour and Respect.  
‘ In the mean while I sent some Forces as a  
‘ Garrison to *Joen-Abat*, who have already taken  
‘ Possession of the said City in my Name. I  
‘ propose to pursue my March thither on Tues-  
‘ day the 29th of this Month \*; but for the  
‘ Preservation of the Empire, and because the  
‘ said King is one of the noblest of the *Turka-*  
‘ *menish* Family, I intend to re-place the Crown  
‘ of *Indostan* upon his Head, and to re-establish  
‘ him on his Throne.

‘ A thousand, and a hundred thousand Times  
‘ be praised that Great and Good God who has  
‘ put seven Seas under my Horse’s Feet, who  
‘ has obliged the Proud to humble themselves  
‘ before me, and has made every Thing vanish  
‘ like the Dreams of Men: Since all these things  
‘ have been brought to pass by the Grace  
‘ and Providence of the Almighty, without whose  
‘ holy Decree nothing can be done throughout  
‘ the whole Earth, I therefore again zealously  
‘ thank his Divine Majesty for all these Vic-  
‘ tories.

‘ I have sent great part of the Enemies Ar-  
‘ tillery, and other Baggage under a Guard to  
‘ *Cabul*. You must not fail immediately to ac-

\* The 22d of February.

‘ quaint

‘ quaint me with the Condition of the Empire,  
 ‘ for as soon as ever your Letter is received, I  
 ‘ shall give Order for the conveyance of the said  
 ‘ Ammunition, either to *Balg* or *Herat*, not doubt-  
 ‘ ing, in the mean while, but that his Highness  
 ‘ *Affuur-Chan* did, agreeable to my Command,  
 ‘ march to *Balg* upon the Feast of *Nouwroest*.

‘ A Copy of this Regam, and an Account of  
 ‘ these great Conquests, must be dispersed by you  
 ‘ immediately throughout the whole Empire, that  
 ‘ the Eyes of my Friends may be enlightened  
 ‘ with Joy, and those of my Enemies may burst  
 ‘ with Envy; you may in the mean while al-  
 ‘ ways rely on our Royal Grace, but you must,  
 ‘ above all Things, take the Concerns of the  
 ‘ Empire to heart, for those that have been back-  
 ‘ wards in their Duty, or deviated from it, shall  
 ‘ upon my Return bring our highest Displeasure  
 ‘ on them, and be punished according to their De-  
 ‘ ferts, whilst those who have behaved obedient-  
 ‘ ly, and discharged their Duty, shall be over-  
 ‘ flowed with our Royal Grace and Favour.

‘ Written the 29th of the Month *Sjekada Tull-*  
 ‘ *baroem* of the Year 1151.\*”

\* The 22d of February 1738-9.



Copy



Copy of a Royal Regam written from  
*Delly* in *Indostan* by *Nadir-Cha*, to his  
Son *Rhesa-Kuli-Mirza*, Vice-Roy of the  
*Persian Empire*.

*At the Head stood,*

‘ In the Name of the Loving and  
Great God, who is Merciful and  
Gracious.

*Lower the Monarch’s Seal impressed with black  
Ink, and underneath as follows,*

‘ **I**N the Name of the Almighty, Great and  
Merciful God, who is Righteous and Gra-  
cious, this Command, which the World must  
obey, is given to our dear and most worthy  
Son *Rhesa-Kuli-Mirza*, whilst he may rely  
himself on, and be assured of our Royal Fa-  
vour, to inform him, That by the gracious Aid  
of the Almighty I am at this time Master of  
*Sjab-Joen-Abat*, the Royal Place of Residence  
of *Indostan*, and of all the other Places of that King-  
dom, as likewise of the *Vogul*, *Mamet-Cha*, and  
of all his Nobles, Counsellors and Governors,  
who have brought and surrendered to me their  
whole Possessions of Jewels, Gold, Silver, Money,  
Goods, Elephants, and so forth, and have be-  
haved

‘ haved themselves very obediently in my Service.  
‘ But since I am one of the Chief of the Il-  
‘ lustrious Blood of *Turkamen*, I have restored  
‘ to that Prince the Crowning Royal Sealing-  
‘ Ring of the *Indostan* Empire, and establisched  
‘ him a-new on his Imperial Throne; in Recom-  
‘ pence for, and Acknowledgment of which Fa-  
‘ vour this Monarch has surrendred to me all  
‘ the Places lying on the other Side of the River  
‘ *Atock* †, the chief whereof are *Pyshore*, *Cabul*,  
‘ *Chasmeyn*, *Snit*, and the Villages thereunto be-  
‘ longing; as likewise *Koeijton*, which, although  
‘ against my Inclination, yet upon the pressing Im-  
‘ portunities of the said Monarch I have accepted,  
‘ and added to my own Dominions.

‘ Since it has pleased the Great and Merciful  
‘ God, who is King of Kings, and Lord of  
‘ Lords, to overflow me, who was weak and  
‘ vain, with his Blessings, and to bring me from  
‘ nothing to be such a mighty Monarch, and  
‘ given me Kingdoms, Places, Cities and Forts,  
‘ it will be consistant both with Reason and  
‘ Mercy, thankfully to acknowledge these Bene-  
‘ fits to the poor Subjects of my Dominions;  
‘ more especially to the Inhabitants of the *Per-*  
‘ *stan* Empire, since they have ever supported  
‘ me with their Money, Goods and Blood, from  
‘ the time that the glorious Sun began to  
‘ give his Light unto this Day. Therefore, be-  
‘ ing willing to free them from all the burthen-  
‘ some Impots and Loads which they have so  
‘ patiently submitted to, I have thought fit to  
‘ acquit them for the time of three running Years,

† The *Indus.*

‘ from

‘ from the Day of the \* *Nouwroest* Feast of this  
‘ Year, of all the ordinary and extraordinary Du-  
‘ ties laid upon them, specified underneath, of  
‘ which I make them a Present.

‘ The Duties laid upon Corn, and all other  
‘ Goods that are ground.

‘ The Imposts and Duties upon horned, and  
‘ other Cattle, Head and Family-Money, and what  
‘ depends thereon.

‘ The old Head-Money paid by the *Armi-*  
‘ *nians, Gauweren, Benjanen,* and *Jews á Ma-*  
‘ *moedjes, 55½* for each Head.

‘ The Moneys necessary for levying Auxiliary  
‘ Troops must be, for the future, paid out of my  
‘ Treasury; the Duty upon the Coinage must be  
‘ paid by the Subjects.

‘ The Tolls and Duties upon the Highways  
‘ must be paid as well by the Natives as fo-  
‘ reign Merchants: As likewise Imposts upon  
‘ Lands, &c. belonging to the Crown, and all  
‘ the other Duties laid upon the conquered Coun-  
‘ tries.

‘ Out of these last two Articles must be main-  
‘ tained Horses for the Postilions, and such Money  
‘ disbursed as these People shall want for their Sub-  
‘ sistence.

‘ You, my dear Son, must upon sight of this  
‘ our Royal Order, cause the same to be copied,  
‘ and sent throughout the Empire, and give Com-  
‘ mand that the same be strictly and dutifully  
‘ observed and respected by all the Nobles,  
‘ Rulers, and Governors; and we command  
‘ all the Nobles, Commanders, and Collectors

\* The 10th of March.

‘ of

‘ of the *Perſian Empire* to bring in their last  
‘ Year’s Accounts to the Secretary’s Office of  
‘ my dear and worthy Son, to be reviewed, ex-  
‘ amined by, and settled with *Mirza-Mamet Bak-*  
‘ *kar* his Secretary. They must take particular  
‘ Care not to demand of my Subjects, nor ob-  
‘ lige them to pay any of the Revenues I have  
‘ acquitted them of, upon any Pretence what-  
‘ foever; but those Duties which have not been  
‘ taken off must be punctually paid as usual.

‘ If any Moneys of the Duties taken off should  
‘ have been paid before the Receipt of this in  
‘ any Place, such Moneys shall be returned to  
‘ the Community in the Presence of the Eccle-  
‘ siastical Judge of those Places where the Pay-  
‘ ment has been made, who must give a Receipt  
‘ of the same sealed up by himself, and take  
‘ strict Care not to do any thing contrary to  
‘ this my Order, or deviate from it in the least  
‘ Point.

‘ After the Accounts of the Revenues and Ex-  
‘ pences shall have been examined, and approved  
‘ of by my dear Son, if it should appear that  
‘ the Expences exceed the Incomes, such Defi-  
‘ ciencies must be paid by him out of what is  
‘ due to me. Every body in the mean time must  
‘ be cautious not to swerve from their Duty, for  
‘ such as shall have done it may be assured they  
‘ shall be dealt with, at my Return, according to  
‘ their Works; on the contrary, such as are  
‘ obedient, and keep within the Limits of their  
‘ Duty, shall be overflowed with our Royal Grace  
‘ and Favour.

‘ The Secretaries of State, and of the Finances,  
‘ are hereby enjoined to insert this Order in their  
‘ Books,

‘ Books, and to Register it duly, and to have  
‘ the same in high Veneration.

‘ Written the 15th of the Month *Sjekada-Tullbaroem*, in the Year 1151, being the Day of the *Nouwroest* Feast.



Copy of a *Perſian* Letter written from *Delly*,  
by one *Wakkiel Hagy Tuffulla*, to the Governor of *Patena*. Dated the 23d of October, 1739.

‘ SINCE the *Semiendars*, on the other Side of the River *Atock*, have stopped the March of the *Perſian* Monarch, and in a long and bloody Fight have cut off 10000 of his Men, the said Prince being drove by Necessity, intends returning to the Capital *Delly*; God’s Pleasure must be expeſted in this Affair. It is further reported, that an Army of 180000 Rebels out of the Southern Provinces have been seen at *Sittara Keddab*, one Half of whom are to come down to *Cha-Jebaan-Abad*, and the other Half to *Awed* and *Illabad*. God preserve King *Mamet-Cha*, and all the Inhabitants of this Country.

‘ After the Letter was closed News was brought, that *Nadir-Cha*, having found Means to appease the *Patanders*, had pursued his March with all his Treasures towards *Perſia*, without farther

- farther Obstruction ; but as the Intelligence out
- of the high Countries is commonly uncertain \*,
- we must wait for a Confirmation of the Truth
- of this.

\* This Intelligence proved very true, for *Nadir-Cha* soon after arrived in his *Persian* Dominions, and entered his Capital *Ispahan* in great Triumph, bringing his vast Acquisitions of Treasure safe along with him. He is at present engaged in a War with the *Ottoman* Empire, and, if we may credit the foreign *Gazettes*, he has made himself Master already of all *Armenia*, and is penetrating farther into the *Turkish* Dominions.

F I N I S.



